QUEST FOR MILITARY SAUCERS

SAUCERS & Aliens

AND OTHER ANOMALIES

E-MAGAZINE

ONLY $1.95

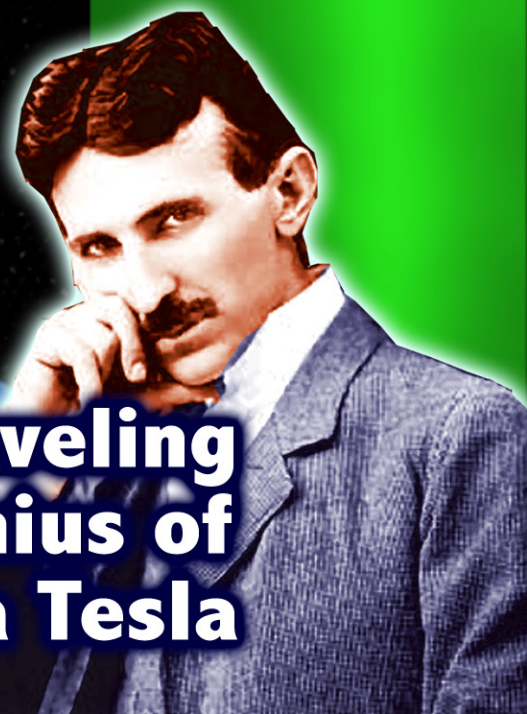
#8

Monsters and Cryptozoology

MOTHMAN
The Enigma of Point Pleasant

the History of
Loch Ness Monster

The Legend of the Flatwoods Monster



Unraveling the Genius of Nicola Tesla

SEARCHING FOR UFOS? AREA 51?
TRY **UFOCRAWLER.COM**

Mankind's Most Carefully Guarded Secret REVEALED!

For the first time.... information that you were never meant to know. Amazing UFO photos and video footage you were never meant to see.

Just $19.95 DVD

At last astounding revelations by the world's foremost authorities including:

Dr. Steven M. Greer, Steve Bassett, Jim Marrs, Robert O. Dean, Dr. Michael Salla, Stanton T. Friedman, Alfred L. Webre, John Greenwald Jr., Dr. Len Horowitz, Dr. Richard Boylan, Jaime Maussan, Paola Harris, Jerry Pippin, Dr. Bruce Maccabee, A. J. Gevaerd, Sean David Morton, Graham E. Bethune, Col. Wendelle C. Stevens, Monsignor Corrado Balducci, James W. Deardorff, Phd., Robert M. Wood PhD, Charles Hall, Richard Dolan, Steven Jones, Rob Simone, Don Ware, Richard Giordano, James Courant, Dolores Cannon, Maurice Osborn, David Coote, Stoyan Cheresharov, Daniel Munioz, Lisa Davis, Bruce Jessop, Robert Miles, Alan G.Toleman,

Available at www.theUFOstore.com

SAUCERS & Aliens E-MAGAZINE

PUBLISHER
Randy Haragan, Inc.

Business Advisor
Jesus Christ

CONTRIBUTORS
William B. Stoecker
Nick Pope
William Kneel
UFO Guy
Troy Taylor
Buddy Griffin
Valerie Mullins
Ray Crowe
Stanton Friedman
Darren Naise

LAYOUT & DESIGN
Randy Haragan Illustration

Saucers & Alien e-Magazine
published at
1930 Ash Street
Baker City, OR 97814
541-523-2630
COPYRIGHT 2008

No part of this publication may be reproduced without written permission from the publisher.

ADVERTISING RATES
Please call 541-523-2630

Nick Pope Op-Ed 2

Mothman the Enigma of Point Pleasant 36

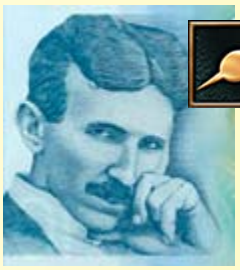
Montauk Monster 6

The Northern Georgia Bigfoot Body
by Bill Knell 41

Things that Fall
by William B. Stoecker 10

Flatwoods Monster
By Stanton Friedman 14

the Quest for the Military Saucer 42



Unraveling the Genius of Nikola Tesla
by William Knell 56

the Legend of the Flatwoods Monster 18

The Search for Australia's YOWIE 64

History of the Loch Ness Monster 22

The Flushing Park Zoo Animal Mutilations
by Bill Knell 69

The Needles UFO Crash: What Really Happened? 32

The Indiana UFO Invasion
by Bill Knell 78

Nick Pope

Our friend Nick Pope, known worldwide as the MODs UFO Man, has graciously allowed us to use his copyrited Op-Ed article that appeared in the New Yourk Times on July 29, 2008. Thanks Nick!
- Publisher

Op-Ed Contributor

Unidentified Flying Threats

By NICK POPE

Published: July 29, 2008

London

On the afternoon of Nov. 7, 2006, pilots and airport employees at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago saw a disc-like object hovering over the tarmac for several minutes. Because nothing was tracked on radar, the Federal Aviation Administration did not investigate. Yet radar is not a reliable detector of all aircraft. Stealth planes are designed to be invisible to radar, and many radar systems filter out signals not matching the normal characteristics of aircraft. Did it really make sense to entirely ignore the observations of several witnesses?

A healthy skepticism about extraterrestrial space travelers leads people to disregard U.F.O. sightings without a moment's thought. But in the United States, this translates into overdependence on radar data and indifference to all kinds of unidentified aircraft — a weakness that could be exploited by terrorists or anyone seeking to engage in espionage against the United States.

The American government has not investigated U.F.O. sightings since 1969, when the Air Force ended Project Blue Book, an effort to scientifically analyze all sightings to see if any posed a threat to national security. Britain and France, in contrast, continue to investigate U.F.O. sightings, because of concerns that some sightings might be attributable to foreign military aircraft breaching their airspace, or to foreign space-based systems of interest to the intelligence community.

Most of the incidents investigated in Britain have been easily explained as misidentifications of stars and planets, aircraft lights, satellites and meteors, but some cases have raised national security or air safety issues.

On Dec. 26, 1980, for instance, several witnesses at two American Air Force bases in England reported seeing a U.F.O. land. An examination of the site turned up indentations in the ground and a level of radiation in the area that was significantly higher than ordinary. More witnesses at the same base reported the U.F.O. again on subsequent nights. The deputy base commander reported that the aircraft aimed light beams into the most highly sensitive area of the base — a clear security breach.

On March 30 and 31, 1993, there was a wave of U.F.O. sightings over Britain. One witness described a triangular-shaped craft that flew slowly over an air force base before accelerating away to the horizon in an instant, many times faster than a jet. The British military reported, "There would seem to be some evidence on this occasion that an unidentified object (or objects) of unknown origin was operating over the U.K."

On April 23, 2007, a commercial airline pilot and some of his passengers reported a huge cigar-shaped U.F.O. — the pilot estimated it to be a mile wide — near the Channel Islands. At the time, air traffic controllers reported to the pilot that radar picked up something, but that it was "unknown traffic."

In addition, there have been several incidents of near misses between U.F.O.s and known aircraft — enough to prompt the Ministry of Defense and the British Civil Aviation Authority to advise pilots, if they encounter anything, "not to maneuver, other than to place the object astern, if possible."

The United States is no less vulnerable than Britain and France to threats to security and air safety. The United States Air Force or the National Aeronautics and Space Administration should reopen investigations of U.F.O. phenomena. It would not imply that the country has suddenly started believing in little green men. It would simply recognize the possibility that radar alone cannot always tell us what's out there.

Nick Pope, the author of "Open Skies, Closed Minds," was in charge of U.F.O. investigations for the British Ministry of Defense from 1991 to 1994. http://www.nickpope.net.

What was the Montauk monster?

by Darren Naish

Unless you've been hiding under a rock, or spending all your time on Tet Zoo, you will almost certainly have heard about the 'Montauk monster', a mysterious carcass that (apparently) washed up on July 13th at Montauk, Long Island, New York. A good photo of the carcass, showing it in right lateral view and without any reference for scale, surfaced on July 30th and has been all over the internet. Given that I only recently devoted a week of posts to sea monsters, it's only fitting that I cover this too. I'm pretty sure that I know what it is, and I'm pleased to see that many other people have come to the same conclusions, as demonstrated by the many informed comments that appeared at Cryptomundo and elsewhere last week. So, what is the Montauk monster?

What has caused widespread confusion and speculation is that, while the lower jaw appears to have had a jagged row of pointy teeth, the upper jaw sports a hooked bony beak. This structure has led to the carcass being termed a 'rodent-like creature with a dinosaur beak', as an 'eagle-dog', and to suggestions that it might be the carcass of a turtle that had lost its shell. Because these suggestions are all, to put it mildly, a tad unlikely, there have also been murmurings of a hoax or viral ad campaign. A 'graphics expert' at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service noted that, if it is a fake, it's a very good Photoshop job, and the fact that the carcass became involved in a sort of marketing campaign for a soft drink hasn't really helped in the credibility stakes (it is, however, pretty obvious that this was a case of opportunistic advertising). Rather more realistic (given the presence of fur and small, clawed hand digits) is the suggestion that it's a dog.

The body is stocky and robust and the limbs are slender and gracile. The digits on the hands are slim, elongate and with small, relatively straight, pale-coloured claws. The slim tail is about equal in length to the head and neck combined. The face is short and it looks like the postorbital part of the skull is long and bulky. While no teeth at all are visible in the upper jaw, the lower jaw clearly contains a large pointed canine and four post-canines with tall, conical cusps. These teeth increase in size posteriorly.

Taphonomy in action

This is clearly a dead mammal, and its large canine and sharply cusped post-canine teeth show that it's a carnivoran. The two details that make the carcass look odd - the lack of hair over most of the carcass and the supposed beak in the upper jaw - are clearly taphonomic artifacts. For years I kept watch on the dead things that washed up at a small stretch of tidal river bank in Southampton [shown in the adjacent image], and on several occasions I got to watch taphonomy in action as dead dogs, cats and foxes washed up and decomposed

over the following weeks [the bottom image here shows a decomposing cat, partially buried in the beach sediment]. One of the first things that happens to bodies that roll around in the water is that their fur comes off, and they look grotesque, hair-less and bloated. The facial tissues then decompose, leaving a defleshed snout and eventually a totally defleshed skull. At the same time, the skin on the hands and feet is lost. Yet the body remains intact. Unfortunately I never took photos demonstrating this sequence of events (these observations were made while I was working on taphonomy for a book that never happened: for more on that particularly unfortunate episode go here).

The Montauk monster therefore owes its bizarre appearance to partial decomposition. The tendency for the soft tissues of the snout to be lost early on in decomposition immediately indicates that the 'beak' is just a defleshed snout region: we're actually seeing the naked premaxillary bones. And this is confirmed by new photos which show without doubt that this is the case (oh well, so much for the eagle-dog hypothesis).

Is the carcass that of a dog? Dogs have an inflated frontal region that gives them a pronounced bony brow or forehead, and in contrast the Montauk monster's head seems smoothly convex. As many people have now noticed, there is a much better match: Raccoon *Procyon lotor*. It was the digits of the hands that gave this away for me: the Montauk carcass has very strange, elongate, almost human-like fingers with short claws. Given that we're clearly dealing with a North American carnivoran, raccoon is the obvious choice: raccoons are well known for having particularly dextrous fingers that lack the sort of interdigital webbing normally present in carnivorans (Lotze & Anderson 1979). As you can see from the composite image shown here, the match for a raccoon is perfect once we compare the dentition and proportions. The Montauk animal has lost its upper canines and incisors (you can even see the empty sockets), and if you're surprised by the length of the Montauk animal's limbs, note that - like a lot of mammals we ordinarily assume to be relatively short-legged - raccoons are actually surprisingly leggy (claims that the limb proportions of the Montauk carcass are unlike those of raccoons are not correct).

Like all of these sorts of mysteries, this one was fun while it lasted, but the photos that really clinched it for a lot of people weren't (so far as I can tell) released on the same day as the initial, tantalizing mystery photo (the one shown at the very top). And I don't mind this sort of thing too much: we get to see a lot of dumbass speculation, sure, but the immense interest that these stories generate show that people - even those not particularly interested in zoology or natural history - have a boundless appetite for mystery animals. If only there were some clever way of better utilizing this fascination.

SAUCERS&ALIENS

theUFOstore.com
2008
Hundreds of DVD titles
Download our FREE Catalog of Products
Designed for YOUR printer using reduced color - requires less ink!

Battle of LA
T-Shirt just $9.95
(2X - 4X $3 more)

JOSE ESCAMILLA'S
UFO SIGHTINGS
Vol. One
From the UFO Archives of Jose Escamilla
$14.95 DVD
Exclusive!
Only available from theUFOstore

Vintage UFO Audio CD Sale! Only $5.95 each
The Pascagoula Incident
SPOTS Before Our Eyes?
Flying Saucers Serious Business
The Flatwoods Monster
War of the Worlds (1938)
UFOs & Unexplained
IMPACT - NICAP
Long John Nebel Flying Saucer Story
INVASION?
Police & Pilot Recordings
Keyhoe Interviews
Flying Saucer Flap
Add $5.95 U.S. Priority mail
theUFOstore.com
The Largest Selection of UFO Products on the Internet
theUFOstore.com
1930 Ash Street
Baker City, OR 97814
Order by Phone
541-523-2630

Download these e-Magazines
from Around the World - Starting at $1.95 each
Adobe Reader
UFOLOGIST
Beyond Imagination Lies The Truth
UFO
OFFICIAL DISCLOSURE
BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES ON THE PARANORMAL
SAUCERS & Aliens
AND OTHER ANOMALIES
E-MAGAZINE
ONLY $1.95
HARD EVIDENCE
EXPOSING THE TRUTH
Volume 8 Number 3
Journal of UFO History
A Publication of the Donald E. Keyhoe Archives
ATLANTIS RISING
Ancient Mysteries · Unexplained Anomalies · Future Science
Mysteries
The New Archaeology Review
Ancient Mysteries and UFOs Revealed?
www.theUFOstore.com
the Largest Selection of UFO Products on the Internet
DVDs · eMags · eBooks
Vintage Radio MP3 Downloads
Accessories · Collectibles
VISA
MasterCard
DISCOVER
theUFOstore.com
1930 Ash Street
Baker City, OR 97814

19 47 ROSWELL
19 47 ROSWELL
This Roswell 1947 hat is designed by the Marcel family and features one of the symbols found on the recovered UFO crash debris. 100% brushed cotton twill. Enzyme washed; low-profile; unconstructed; sewn eyelets; self-fabric closure with brass snap. One size fits all.
Tan hat, Black embroidery $9.95
Black Hat purple embroidery $9.95
10,000 Pages of UFO Documents
FBI, NSA, DoD, DIA, MJ-12, NASA Project Grudge, Project Skylight, NICAP, US Army, USAF, USN McDonald Report, SOM1-01
Over 10,000 pages released by FBI, NSA, CIA, and the Armed Forces on UFOs. Supplied in Acrobat PDF, GIF and JPG formats. CD-ROM $7.95
theUFOstore's
UFO BBS
"The Largest Collection of UFO files in the World"
www.theUFOstore.com
WOW! What a collection! Hundreds of photos, movies, interviews, audio tracks, FBI, CIA, KGB, NSA documents, text files, reported sightings, and much more. Over 14,000 files on this CD. Many hours of research went into this one. UFO BBS CD-ROM $9.95
Here's the new Triangle UFO model kit you've been asking for! Based on many eye-witness sightings. About 6" diameter. This injection molded kit includes upper/lower hull and 3 landing gear. $14.95
Small lighted UFO with built-in lights. Watch the multi-colored lights rotate under the craft. Craft is magnetically sealed! You pull hull apart to turn on light system (included). About 3.5" wide. $9.95
Add $5.95 first item,
$1 each additional item.
U.S. Priority Mail
theUFOstore.com
The Largest Selection of UFO Products on the Internet
theUFOstore.com
1930 Ash Street
Baker City, OR 97814
Order by Phone
541-523-2630
VISA
MasterCard
DISCOVER

Things That Fall

Guest Commentary
William B. Stoecker
author of The Atlantis Conspiracy, www.hiddenmysteries.com

UFOs are perhaps the most blatant and obvious challenge to conventional thinking; they have been seen and videotaped by multiple witnesses of unimpeachable character; there have been simultaneous radar/visual sightings; and they have even been seen and filmed by astronauts. Their reality is beyond question, save for the professional debunkers.

If they are interpreted as alien spacecraft they are a challenge to orthodox thinking, but there is no need to revise our concept of the basic nature of reality; the atheist/materialist paradigm can accomodate spacehips from other worlds with no real problem.

But some UFOs are difficult to explain away in these terms. They appear out of nowhere and vanish without a trace. They change shape, luminosity, and color. They break up into smaller objects and/or coalesce into larger ones. For these, the spaceship explanation begins to fail; they seem more like bizarre living entities or paranormal manifestations. Along with other paranormal phenomena, they are a challenge to the common materialist view; to take it all in we have to abandon that in favor of philosophical idealism, the idea that mind, or consciousness, is the prime reality and matter (mass/energy/space/time) is a secondary manifestation. A universe consisting of a great mind of which we are all a part (elsewhere I have referred to it as "consensus reality" or the "virtual reality universe) has room for ghosts, angels, demons, and magic, and it all begins to make a weird kind of sense.

But some things don't seem to make any sense at all; they seem to defy logic no matter what your philosophy is. And nothing is stranger than the things that fall: falls of stones, ice, fish and other creatures, colored rain, and organic materials in vast quantities, sometimes from a clear sky. Debunkers have tried to explain these away like every other challenge to their basic assumptions, but with only limited success. Few writers have touched this subject in recent decades, so for the cases below I have depended heavily upon the writings of the late American author and researcher Charles Fort. Thus, most of them are from the nineteen twenties and earlier. Note that Fort researched the files of newspapers, and while some of these cases may have been hoaxes, most seem pretty well documented, and no one has ever impugned the honesty of Charles Fort himself. And remember, the fact that our controlled media today seldom report such events does not mean that they have ceased to happen.

Seemingly easy to explain are falls of stones. We know today that meteorites do indeed fall from the sky, and there is evidence that some of the smaller ones may have slowed and cooled by the time they reach the ground. Beginning

around August, 1878, stones fell for a period of several weeks in Chico, California. The meteorite theory fails here, because meteorites cannot continue to fall almost exclusively in one small area for any length of time, due to the simple fact that the Earth turns on its axis and orbits the Sun. Remember the huge comet fragments that struck Jupiter a few years ago? They left dark marks stretching for tens of thousands of miles across the planet. Warm stones resembling flint fell 9/4/1886 in Charleston, South Carolina at 2:30 AM, 7:30 AM, and 1:30 PM. Again, the time lapses rule out meteorites. There have even been reports of stones, usually warm, materializing and falling inside houses, usually in association with various poltergeist manifestations.

In some ways, falls of ice may actually be the easiest to explain away. Today, ice can fall from aircraft, and, during hailstorms, it is possible for small hailstones to coalesce as they fall, forming fairly sizeable chunks of ice. In addition, it may be possible that meteorites or cometary fragments composed mostly of water ice may somehow survive the solar radiation in the inner Solar System, and not be entirely melted by their passage through our atmosphere. In any event, large chunks of ice have been reported falling at L'Aquila, Ancoma, and Avellino Italy, and in various parts of Spain, the US, and other locations.

Various animals, both living and dead, have fallen from the sky; usually, though not always, they are aquatic creatures. The debunkers "explain" these by imagining tornadoes and waterspouts sucking them up and then dropping them. But these events are often reported when no tornadoes have been seen or heard, and often when the windy thunderstorm weather that spawns tornadoes was not even present. In addition, most of the falls are selective, dropping only one type of animal, and the dirt, small stones, mud, or large amounts of water that a tornado or waterspout would also lift and then drop are almost always absent. Near Toulouse, France in August, 1804, a thick cloud suddenly appeared in a clear sky, and large numbers of toads fell. These mysterious clouds have also been implicated in the disappearance of aircraft. Fish fell on Ross-shire, Scotland in 1828, and on Mountain Ash, Wales on 2/11/1859. Lizards fell in Montreal, Canada on 12/28/1857. Snakes fell in Memphis, Tennessee on 1/15/1877. Small frogs were found in great numbers after a rain in London, England on 7/30/1838 and again on 8/17/1921. Sand eels fell on Hindon, England on 8/24/1918. There have been reports of falls of both live and dead fish, crayfish, eels, and periwinkles, and even fish scales falling without the fish. There have been repeated reports of large numbers of dead birds falling from the sky, as at Baton Rouge, Louisiana in November, 1896. Fish have been found lying on the ground after earthquakes in South America and South Africa. Earthquakes have been accompanied by a whole host of strange events. Lizards fell on Sacramento, California in August, 1870, and fish fell along with the stones in Chico.

Various animals, both living and dead, have fallen from the sky; usually, though not always, they are aquatic creatures.

Black or red rain and other colors, are usually explained by dust mixing with the clouds, and this may be possible. Black rain fell in Ireland 5/14/1849 and again on 10/8 and 10/9/1907. Note that Ireland, with its heavy rainfall, is not a dusty area, nor is it anywhere near any dusty area, and it was not yet industrialized. In virtually all of these cases, no dust or factory soot is reported anywhere in the vicinity. Yellow rain was reported 2/27/1877 at Peckloh, Germany. Black snow was reported on 4/26/1884 near Liverpool, England, and there have also been reports of black hail. Unidentifiable red and yellow

substances have fallen in Nova Scotia, France, Italy, and Spain.

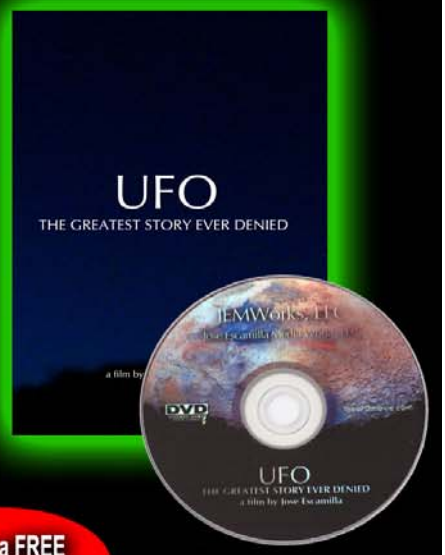
There have been numerous reports of rains of blood and other organic materials, like the fall of blood and meat on 7/24/1851 at an Army post near San Francisco, California. And let's not forget the account in Exodus of the manna that fell in Sinai to feed the Israelites.

There is an old English tradition that some meteorites are "star jellies," and a fairly old theory that some ufos may be living creatures. In 1833 in Rathway, New Jersey, during a meteor shower, people saw glowing objects fall and then turn into lumps of jelly that disintegrated into dust. In nearby Philadelphia on 9/26/1950 police officers John Collins and Joe Keenan saw a purple blob about a foot thick and some six feet across fall in a small field, pulsating as if it were alive. When they tried to lift it, it disintegrated and evaporated, and the sticky residue on their hands also evaporated. This event was probably the inspiration for the horror movie, *The Blob*, but, unlike the unfortunate victims in that film, the two police officers suffered no harm whatever.

Of course, the cases above represent only a tiny fraction of the total. What are we to make of all this? People have theorized that ufos might dump the contents of fish tanks, but why would they carry fish unless for food, and, if so, why discard them? Or why would ufos lift fish from bodies of water here on Earth and then drop them? Here, at least, we may have a partial explanation. Ufos have been seen entering and leaving bodies of water such as lakes, or hovering above and apparently sucking up water. Conceivably, they need the water for some purpose and then discard the fish and other aquatic animals. But this is at best, only a partial and possible explanation for only a few of the above events. Perhaps these mysterious falls are the greatest challenge at all to our way of thinking, for they seem to be impossible to explain. It may be (if philosophical idealism is correct) that, at times, consensus reality breaks down and seemingly absurd and meaningless things happen. We may never know anything except that we are confronted with a great mystery.

William B Stoecker

UFO: the Greatest Story Ever DENIED



Ask for a FREE UFO Store Catalog

5 out of 5 Stars! EXCELLENT

This NEWLY RELEASED DVD
UFO The Greatest Story Ever DENIED
a film by Jose Escamilla.
Contains rare FILM FOOTAGE of the 1942 "Battle of Los Angeles" as well as a comprehensive catalog of the cover-up by the governments of the world.
97 mins. NTSC Region 1 DVD
Just $24.95
plus $6.95 U.S. $8.95 Intn'l shipping.

theUFOstore.com
The Largest Selection of UFO Products on the Internet

ATLANTIS RISING ONLINE ADVANTAGE

Download Current and Past Issues Exclusively at

www.theUFOstore.com

SAVE UP TO 50% OFF NEWSSTAND PRICE

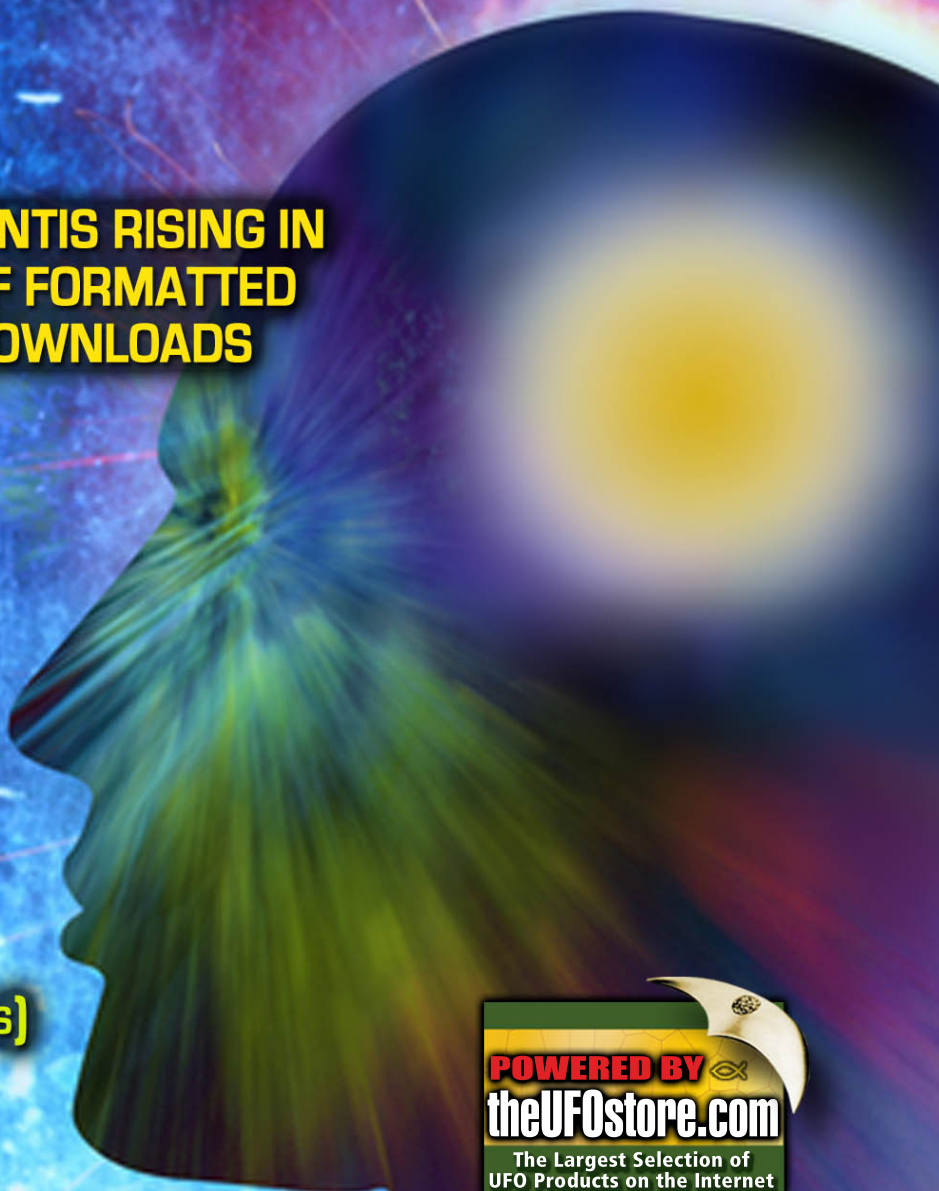
DOWNLOAD
THE CURRENT PDF ISSUE
2 WEEKS EARLY
AND SAVE 50%
JUST $2.95

ATLANTIS RISING IN .PDF FORMATTED DOWNLOADS

DOWNLOAD
PAST PDF ISSUES
JUST $2.95

SUBSCRIBE
6 - PDF ISSUES (ONE YEAR)
AND SAVE 40%
JUST $14.95

SUBSCRIBE
12 - PDF ISSUES (TWO YEARS)
AND SAVE 40%
JUST $24.95



POWERED BY
theUFOstore.com
The Largest Selection of UFO Products on the Internet

Download Current and Past Issues Exclusively at

www.theUFOstore.com

Flatwoods Monster UFO Event

by Stanton Friedman

Frank Feschino's telephone call came as a surprise this past summer. We had met at a conference in Florida a few years back when he had mentioned he was researching the Flatwoods Monster UFO event of Sept. 12, 1952. Our pictures were taken together and that was about the end of it. Now Frank, an artist who has done film school as well, was asking if I would help him out by attending the Flatwoods Monster 50th Anniversary event in Flatwoods, West Virginia, the weekend of September 12, 2002. There were more conversations and I agreed as long as they would cover expenses. I hadn't been in West Virginia for years, though I had spoken at West Virginia University in Morgantown.

Stanton questions the government's explanations of the Flatwoods monster incident while on location at the farm.

Frank wanted me to speak on two afternoons at the newly set up "museum" or event center and do some media interviews.

I did some homework reviewing what had been written about the case by Jerome Clark, Donald Keyhoe, Dr. Joe Nickell, and others. Some was impressive. The plan was to drive to Bangor, Maine, fly to Cincinnati and then to Charleston, West Virginia. Frank would pick me up with the mayor and drive the 60 miles on Interstate 79 to a motel in Sutton, next door to Flatwoods. That morning was jinxed. I got on the connecting flight in Cincinnati with a few other passengers. Then we were told to get off, just a small problem with the plane and they were bringing over another aircraft. While waiting there was a major Security Alert and we were all chased out of Terminal A. With all my travelling, this was my first such security adventure -- and I hope my last.

I spent a few hours waiting in line then finally getting through security to find that the plane had left and I was booked on a much later flight and wait listed for a somewhat earlier flight. I tried calling Frank who was of course at the airport in Charleston. I was the last standby let on the flight. Frank was waiting with the Flatwoods Mayor. They hadn't been able to get any useful info from the airline, but somebody who got off my supposed flight said things were a mess. Fortunately, we did arrive in time to take the tour leading a bunch of people who had come for the event to the actual site of the encounter with the monster. Frank led the tour as we walked past the big tree which the monster came from behind. We walked up the hill to the top where the UFO had landed and the gully to which the UFO had

Stanton and Frank at the landing site on the hilltop of the Fisher farm where the boys saw the object land.

migrated. We were there exactly 50 years to the minute after the event.

Knowing the geography was very useful. Since that place at the top was the highest flat area in the region, it was a natural place for a plane in trouble to land. In the gully the UFO was not exposed. These areas were well above the school yard where the youngsters had been playing football when they first spotted. the object. I helped Frank on the tour even noting that a month or two before, while on a radio show out of NY, a former USAF man then based at Andrews AFB, had called saying that not only were there jets scrambled over Washington, DC, during the famous July ,1952, flap of sightings (even over the White House) but frequently for the following year, which would include the time of the Flatwoods case. The base was definitely but quietly concerned about UFOs. The airman noted that in one instance 2 jets had been sent up after a UFO and only one came back.

I spoke without slides both days in the small museum meeting room which had been decorated with Frank's photos and drawings, did several interviews and met with several witnesses including Mrs. May, the key witness, and one of her sons who was there and had also been a witness. It turned out that the Mayor had also seen the object fly over.

Only about a 15' section of the big tree that had been there in 1952 was left. The "Monster" had come from behind the tree. The branch under which the FM had passed was 12 feet above the ground. The monster was floating about a foot or so off the ground (thus being about 10' high) giving off some kind of oily substance which stained clothes of some of the witnesses and whose smell made some of the boys quite ill. It was clear that the monster was not too much like the drawing which had been spread around after being made by an artist for the We the People TV show on which Mrs. May and a local reporter appeared within 2 weeks of the event. It was much more mechanical and had antennas instead of hands.

We heard for the first time a tape that had been made many years earlier of a show hosted by Long John Nebel, the old New York City talk show host who often dealt with UFOs. Nebel interviewed naturalist Ivan Sanderson in depth. Sanderson had gone to West Virginia and talked to many witnesses within a short time of the event. Gray Barker of Clarksburg WV had also interviewed witnesses soon after the event. The local reporter, Mr. Stewart, had interviewed many witnesses and was aware of other sightings in the area that same weekend.

I was truly amazed at how much effort Frank had put into his investigation. He found news clippings from all over the East Coast talking of UFOs and supposed meteors seen

the Flatwoods Monster
Audio CD
Ivan Sanderson's 1953 audio report of the 1952 Braxton County West Virginia Incident
featuring
Flatwoods Monster
of Braxton County

Hear the complete Ivat T. Sanderson radio report!
Only $5.95 in Audio CD
and $1.95 in MP# download

www.theUFOstore.com

that weekend though more likely burning or plasma surrounded UFOs. There are no normal meteor showers Sept. 12-15. Frank dug out the Blue Book files which had been difficult to read. He managed to locate the head of the National Guard contingent who was at the site within hours of the event, having been instructed by the military to check it out. Colonel Leavitt was with a bunch of troops who spent over night at the site. He managed to get samples of the oily material which were sent off never to be heard from again. Frank, because of his film school training, videotaped extended interviews with many of the key people including both Colonel Leavitt and journalist Stewart before they died.

Of course, there are some who say the whole story was baloney with the kids making up stories to get attention and the so called monster being nothing more than a large barn owl because of the way the top of the monster (seemingly a protective helmet) was shown as being backed by something in the shape of a playing card spade. Naturally in the tradition of noisy negativists, these debunkers did their research by proclamation rather than investigation.

The loudest of the debunkers is Dr. Joe Nickell the chief investigator for the self-anointed Committee for the Scientific Investigation of Claims of the Paranormal. Dr. Nickell does have three degrees (all in English) and did visit Flatwoods, and writes well. However, he did not talk to the witnesses and did not visit the site hillside, the tree, or the flat area at the top. He has a long, very misleading article in Ron Story's 2000 Encyclopedia. It was just scared youngsters seeing a barn owl and a meteor landing on the hill. A ten foot high owl would really have been something, especially one able to float without moving its wings and without a branch to set on. For a large glowing Meteor to land without making a loud explosive sound and not creating a crater and not leaving any meteorite residue would be truly remarkable and especially when it had to change direction and slowly move across town.

Frank Feschino has done most of his work very quietly and has been almost obsessive about secrecy. I feel particularly privileged to be able to read a copy of his manuscript about the case. I surely hope that a publisher will soon be found and that a motion picture production company is not far behind.

Based on his drawings and comments made by reporters within three days of the events and on testimony by other witnesses from a nearby town where a "monster" was also seen, I think that at least the exterior portion of the monster

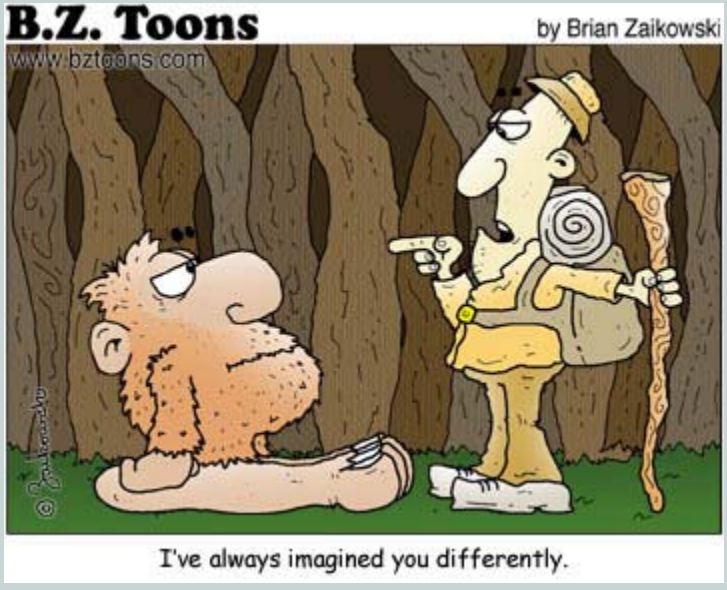
On September 12, 1952, the Flatwoods monster was sighted to the right of this tree that once stood over 50 feet tall. Today only a decaying shell a few feet tall remains at the scene of the encounter.

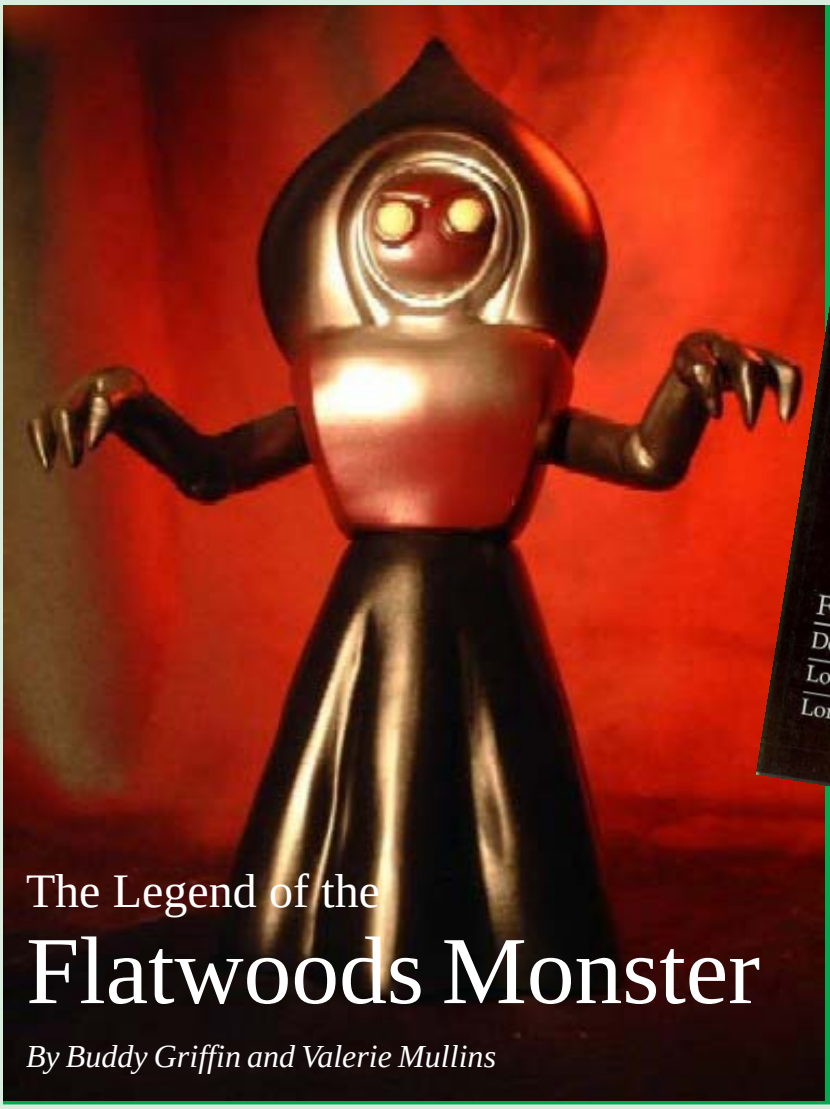
Stanton and Frank discuss the owl theory while standing on the path where the monster sighting occurred. Stanton is standing in the same location where Kathleen May stood when she sighted the Flatwoods monster near the tree located to the upper right along the path.

A fence once crossed this path where Stanton is standing, but only a single post remains. The witnesses that climbed this fence and continued up the path encountered the monster some 35 feet away. This was also the same fence that Mrs. May leaped over enroute back down the path after the encounter with the monster.

was mechanical. It made me think of a hazardous material protective device -- perhaps with an Extraterrestrial Biological Entity inside. It seems clear the object was in trouble when it landed. There is far more evidence relating to the Flatwoods Monster event than was the case with regard to that other West Virginia monster, the Mothman.

Although Frank Feschino has already collected a huge number of clippings about the case I would be most happy to receive any that readers can dig up from any newspapers for September 12-16, 1952. They may refer to UFOs or meteors or missing jets seen East of the Mississippi and can be sent to me at POB 958, Houlton, ME 04730 USA. Please indicate the date of the clipping and the name of the newspaper. I will forward them to Frank. The best website to check out is Frank Feschino's at www.flatwoodsmonster.com.





The Legend of the Flatwoods Monster

By Buddy Griffin and Valerie Mullins

Tthis article first appeared in Goldenseal magazine's Fall 2002 issue and is used by permission.
www.wvculture.org/goldenseal

As the dog days of summer gradually give way to the crisp chill of autumn, September 12 might seem to be just another typical day. For me, the date tickles at the back of my mind, like a teasing memory. Then I recall an eerie significance attached to this date, when an event almost too bizarre to be real rocked the small town of Flatwoods in central West Virginia.

September 12, 2002, marked the 50th anniversary of the reported sighting of an alien creature in the hills of Braxton County. Some dismissed it as a hoax, but those who were actually there at the time have a different perspective. The event has had a profound impact. As a result of it, Flatwoods would earn the nickname "Home of the Green Monster." The frightening tale would be told time and again by those who witnessed the event, and friends and neighbors would speak of it in whispers. The story would live on, passed down through the generations and becoming part of the oral folklore that is so unique to our mountain culture and heritage.

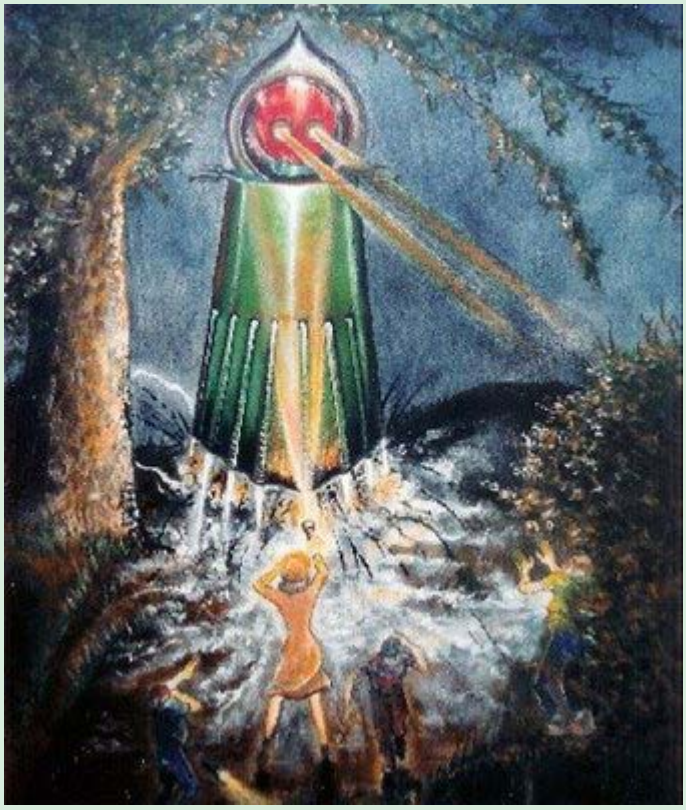
I was five years old when I first learned about the Flatwoods Monster, also known as the Braxton County Monster, the Phantom of Flatwoods, or simply the Green Monster. It was an experience that was burned forever into my mind.

During the early 1950's, my family and I lived in Summersville, and I loved to go on fishing trips with my dad and other relatives. On one of these fishing expeditions late one summer, we spent most of the morning fishing up and down the Elk River, just above Sutton, in Braxton County. Tired and hungry, we retreated to a local restaurant for lunch. This restaurant was located at the "Y" intersection of routes 4 and 19, about half-a- mile south of downtown Sutton. We were seated in a booth near the window, and had just finished ordering our food. We were making small talk with the waitress when she looked at me and commented, "You'd better look out, or that monster will get you."

Why would someone offer that kind of "helpful" advice to a five-year-old kid? Her words, nonetheless, had the

desired effect, and I felt the blood drain from my face in terror. I looked to my father for reassurance, or a conspiratorial wink, or a smile indicating that the waitress was kidding. But there were none!

An uncomfortable silence fell over the afternoon dining crowd, and the room took on the stale air of a funeral parlor. In quiet, hushed tones, conversations slowly resumed. My young ears picked up bits and pieces of dialogue laced with words such as "fireball," "spaceship," "red eyes," and "10-feet tall." My heart thumped painfully against my thin chest when I heard the phrase, "Eat you alive!"



Apparently, the fear in my heart was communicated clearly on my face. A burly gentleman leaned around our booth and commented, "Don't worry about the monster getting you, kid. You'll smell it before it gets near enough to grab you." The diners around us erupted into gales of hearty laughter that reverberated around the room for a good two minutes. I looked questioningly at my father, still hoping for some form of reassurance, and he began to explain.

Recently, some people in the nearby community of Flatwoods had an unusual experience, he said. A fireball, it seems, had fallen from the sky. A few residents witnessed this phenomenon and had gone to investigate. When they got there, they discovered a hideous monstrosity with fiery red eyes. Some of the search team reportedly were overwhelmed by a highly noxious odor and ran for their lives. My father finished by saying that he wouldn't let the monster get me.

I felt a little better, but my once-strong interest in bass fishing was now completely overshadowed by a nagging fear of monsters. My thoughts strayed, and I felt a desperate urge to retreat across the mountain to the safety and comfort of home.

That episode in the restaurant left an impression on me so intense, that still today I am repulsed and fascinated by the Green Monster. It wasn't until some years later, when my parents moved from Summersville to Sutton, that I actually had the opportunity to research the subject of the monster in detail. I soon developed a burning desire to know more about local history and about the odd events that had transpired in and around my new hometown in September 1952.

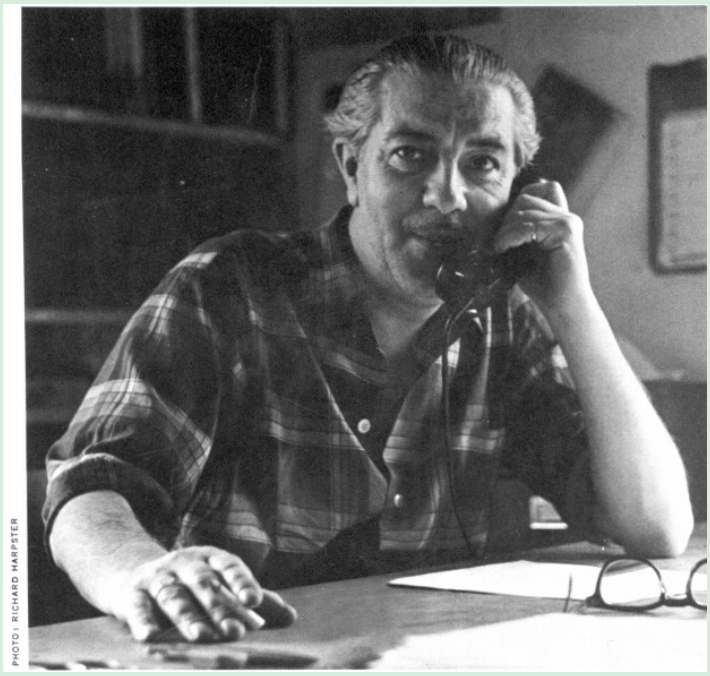
I began my search in the local newspaper morgues, looking for stories related to the topic. The Sutton papers, the Braxton Democrat and the Braxton Central, provided many of the basic details of the event, including the names of the witnesses and other key personnel. The witnesses included beautician Kathleen May and seven young people: her sons Edward ("Eddie") and Theodore ("Freddy") May, their friends Ronald Shaver, Neal Nunley, Teddy Neal, and Tommy Hyer, and teenager Eugene "Gene" Lemon. These people and their accounts were the chief source of information about the incident. For them, the experience was extremely frightening and very real.

Near dusk on September 12, 1952, they claimed, the boys were startled from a game of football by what appeared to be a fireball streaking across the sky. Overwhelmed with curiosity, they ran to investigate. Before proceeding to the site, they stopped by the home of the May family and alerted Kathleen May, who accompanied them to the suspected landing area on the Bailey Fisher farm. Along the way, they were joined by Gene Lemon, a 17-year-old National Guardsman.

According to an account published in the Braxton Central newspaper, "As the group neared the top of the hill, Mrs. May said the air became foggy and misty and that a peculiar metallic odor, which burned their nostrils and hurt their eyes, was prevalent. As the group reached the crest of the hill, Mrs. May said she saw a huge ball of fire about 100 yards away, pulsing light and making a slight hissing sound. She and the young men with her all estimated that the ball must have been at least 10 feet or more in diameter. They continued to follow a path around the hill which would have brought them within about 50 feet ofthe glowing object.

"As they walked along, Mrs. May said that suddenly to their left, and about 75 feet from the glowing object, there appeared two lights resembling powerful flashlights which seemed to be about a foot apart. One of the boys turned his flashlight on the lights, and there stood this huge, man-like creature, which Mrs. May said looked to be about 12 feet in height and four feet in width. Describing the spectacle, she said it had 'a bright red face, bright green clothing, a head which resembled the ace of spades, and it's clothing from the waist down hung in great folds.' As they saw the object, Mrs. May said it appeared to be 'moving towards us as if it were floating through the air.' The viewers immediately took flight. ..."

Frightened, Mrs. May immediately contacted local officials Robert Carr and Burnell Long. The authorities arrived at the site later that night, and continued their investigation early the next morning. Officials noted a lingering odor, two long skid marks, a trampled region impressed in the waist-high grass, and a few greasy spots. Any remnants or traces of the object or its occupant were gone.



Author Ivan Sanderson

As word of the incident spread, a sense of fear, hysteria, and doubt filled the small town. The story was initially made public through the efforts of A. Lee Steward, owner and publisher of the Braxton Democrat newspaper. He was the first reporter on the scene to interview the shaken and trembling eyewitnesses. J. Holt Byrne, owner, publisher, and editor of the Braxton Central, also covered the story.

Soon, journalists from around the country descended on Flatwoods, looking for anyone who could lend credence to these strange reports, or offer some rational explanation. Interest in the story was fueled by news of similar sightings that night in Wheeling, Parkersburg, Bluefield, Charleston, and elsewhere in West Virginia, as well as in surrounding states. Kathleen May and Gene Lemon were interviewed on national television, and speculation about the case ran wild. The story of the "Phantom of Flatwoods," as the media dubbed it, was voted one of the top 10 news stories in the nation by the Associated Press in 1952.

Despite the eyewitness accounts, various explanations were given for the occurrence. Many regarded it as a coincidence or a natural phenomenon. Some believed it was the result of a revolving beacon light shining on the remnants of a flaming meteorite trail, casting an eerie glow on a lone tree that stood on the hillside. Others conjectured that it was a frightened owl in the moonlight, while still others dismissed it as a childish prank. Some people didn't know what to believe.

1952 was an election year, the Korean War was raging, McCarthyism and the "Red Scare" filled the newspapers, and it seemed that everyone was on edge. Science fiction was popular, and classics such as the 1951 hit film The Day the Earth Stood Still and Orson Welles' radio version of "War of the Worlds" were on many people's minds. The times were violent, and the world was unstable, and many looked to the heavens for unusual signs, expecting the end of times. The UFO craze of the 1950's might have been part of that mind-set.

Author Ivan Sanderson came to Braxton County a few days after the sighting and conducted what was considered by many to be the most detailed investigation into the incident. His 26-page report put forth an astonishing theory. He wrote, "A flight of aerial machines, maneuvering in formation, initially came in over the eastern seaboard from the Atlantic at about 7 o'clock, passed over Baltimore traveling northwest, then veered around and headed back over central West Virginia 15 minutes later, from the northwest to the southeast. Something went wrong, and they began to go out of control. The one that reached Flatwoods landed, rather than crashed, and it's 'pilot' or occupant managed to get out before it disintegrated."

Sanderson claimed that the occupant was wearing a special suit that reacted with our environment, and that the alien and its ship were destroyed by the chemistry of the Earth's atmosphere. He attributed the foul aroma and the misty fog to the dissipation of the craft and the alien. He concluded his report with this question. "If this is not the explanation, then somebody has to explain two things: What did the people see at Flatwoods, and what happened to it?"

I realized that this event had a dramatic impact on my community and on those who had heard the stories. Through Buck Thayer, owner of the Braxton Democrat at the time I moved to Sutton in 1966, I learned about several books that had been written about the subject. Glenville State College professor Dr. James G. Jones wrote one of these books. Titled appalachian Ghost Stories and Other Tales, the book contained short, straight-forward chapters concerning encounters with the Flatwoods Monster. According to Dr. Jones' book, a visiting New Yorker and his wife had a close encounter with a rather frightening and noxious-smelling life form, which matched the description of the Flatwoods creature.

Many other books and articles have been written about the Flatwoods Monster, with more of them coming out each year. Two of the most well-known of these are Uninvited Visitors, by Ivan T. Sanderson, and They Knew Too Much About Flying Saucers, by Gray Barker. Barker's book, published in 1956 by University Books, includes a narrative on the Flatwoods sighting based on tape-recorded interviews he conducted with the witnesses shortly after the event. The book's success helped to establish Barker, a Braxton County native, as one of the leading UFO researchers in the country

Kathleen May and the drawing of her sighting.

The monster story has been passed down in Braxton County to successive generations in the classroom, through songs, and in the retelling of the original legends. During my years as a social studies teacher, I had the good fortune to run across an extensive file containing various clippings and other information, including a 30-question quiz pertaining to the incident, which was given to local students to test their knowledge of the subject. I continued this tradition by passing along the story to my students in class.

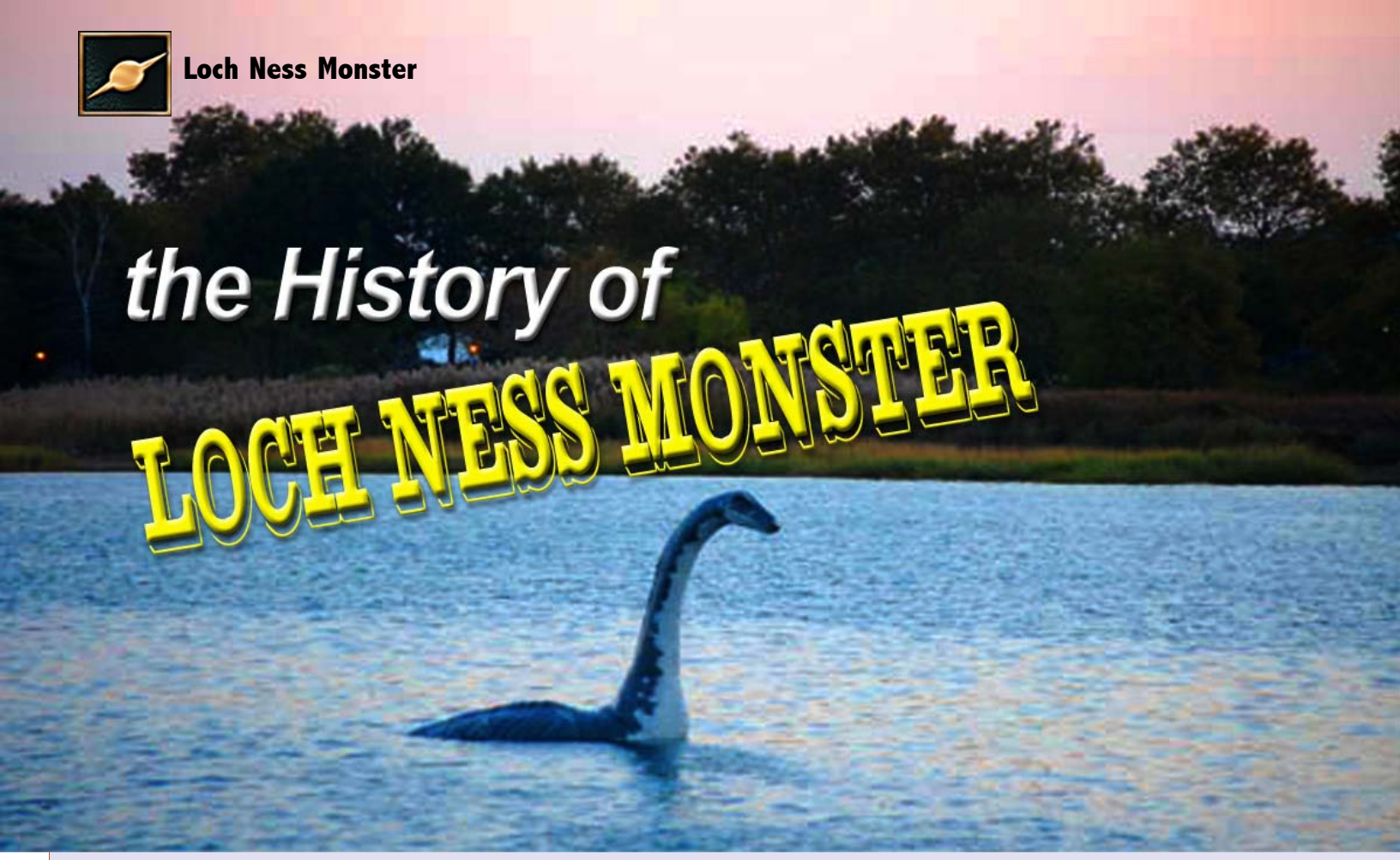
Former Flatwoods resident Pam Singleton Blevins, now of Hurricane, grew up, as I did, surrounded by stories of the monster. As she recalls, there were times when the monster was all that would be discussed in her grade-school classes. Several years after the sighting, the school principal, whom Pam says wholehearted believed that the monster was a UFO, led students on a field trip up to the farm where the sighting had occurred. He showed them the large indentation where the space ship was said to have landed and delivered a lecture on the spot. Pam describes the indentation as being perfectly round and oddly scorched at the middle.

According to Pam, however, there were relatively few people in town who firmly believed that Flatwoods had been visited by an alien invader. The majority viewed the situation with amusement, or, as she says, "something to laugh about." One enterprising young man fixed up his Volkswagon to look like the Green Monster and drove it around town for years, while an elderly lady submitted a recipe to the town's centennial cookbook for a "Green Monster Shake."

Others in town viewed the matter with some embarrassment, Pam says, and feared that it gave Flatwoods a bad name. She acknowledges that the attention helped to put Flatwoods on the map, however, and she admits that the monster and its legend are "part of my heritage, too."

Over the years, the Flatwoods Monster has become as much a part of West Virginia's cultural heritage as the Hatfields and McCoys, and John Henry. Even now, 50 years later, Flatwoods has a sign posted at the edge of town welcoming visitors to the "Home of the Green Monster." One can still find t-shirts and colorful figurines depicting the alien in its full, hideous glory. Folks still come from miles around asking questions and hoping to see the site where the creature had been reported.

What did and the others see that night? Did it really disappear, or is the Flatwoods Monster still lurking in the hills of central West Virginia?



The Loch Ness Monster (*Nessiteras rhombopteryx*) is an alleged animal, identified neither as to a family or species, purportedly inhabiting Scotland's Loch Ness. The Loch Ness Monster is one of the best-known cryptids studied by cryptozoology. Popular belief and interest in the animal have waxed and waned over the years since it came to the world's attention in 1933. Evidence of its existence is largely anecdotal, with minimal, and much disputed, photographic material and sonar readings: there has not been any physical evidence (skeletal remains, capture of a live animal, definitive tissue samples or spoor) uncovered as of 2008. Local people, and later many around the world, have affectionately referred to the animal by the diminutive **Nessie** (Scottish Gaelic: "Niseag") since the 1950s.

Origins

The term "monster" was reportedly[2] coined on 2 May 1933 by Alex Campbell, the water bailiff for Loch Ness and a part-time journalist, in a report in the *Inverness Courier*. On 4 August 1933, the *Courier* published as a full news item the claim of a London man named George Spicer that, a few weeks earlier, while motoring around the Loch, he and his wife had seen "the nearest approach to a dragon or pre-historic animal that I have ever seen in my life", trundling across the road toward the Loch carrying "an animal" in its mouth. The following month, another letter came from a veterinary student reporting a similar encounter while on a night drive. These stories soon reached the national press, and afterward the international, which talked of a 'monster fish', 'sea serpent' or 'dragon',[3] eventually settling on 'Loch Ness Monster'.[4] On 6 December 1933 the first photograph (taken by Hugh Gray) was published,[5] and the creature received official recognition from the Secretary of State for Scotland, ordering the police to prevent any attacks on it.[6] Other letters began appearing in the *Courier*, often anonymously, with claims of land or water sightings, either on the writer's part or on the parts of family, acquaintances or stories they remembered being told. In 1934, interest was further sparked by what is known as "The Surgeon's Photograph" (see above). In the same year R. T. Gould published a book[7], the first of many which describe the author's personal investigation and collected record of additional reports pre-dating the summer of 1933. Subsequent investigations by other agents over the ensuing decades added additional material which was eventually woven into a continuum of sightings dating from the 6th century A.D. to the present, which appeared to present a strong case for the existence of a large, possibly unknown and certainly unidentified animal or family of animals living in Loch Ness.

History of reported sightings

From 1933 onward, a picture has emerged from investigations of reports of large animals in the loch having existed for centuries, but in recent times have declined from over ten per year in the 1990s to three in 2006.[8] Some believers have argued that a lengthy history of monster sightings in the loch provides ample evidence of the animal's existence in and of itself.

Saint Columba (565)

The earliest known report is said to be found in the *Life of St. Columba* by Adamnan, written sometime during the 7th century. It describes how in 565 Columba saved the life of a Pict, who was being supposedly attacked by the monster. Adamnan describes the event as follows:
"...(He) raised his holy hand, while all the rest, brethren as well as strangers, were stupefied with terror, and, invoking the name of God, formed the saving sign of the cross in the air, and commanded the ferocious monster, saying, "Thou shalt go no further, nor touch the man; go back with all speed." Then at the voice of the saint, the monster was terrified, and fled more quickly than if it had been pulled back with ropes, though it had just got so near to Lugne, as he swam, that there was not more than the length of a spear-staff between the man and the beast. Then the brethren seeing that the monster had gone back, and that their comrade Lugne returned to them in the boat safe and sound, were struck with admiration, and gave glory to God in the blessed man. And even the barbarous heathens, who were present, were forced by the greatness of this miracle, which they had seen, to magnify the God of the Christians".[9]

Many question the reliability of the *Life of St. Columba* as evidence for the Loch Ness Monster's existence, because it contains tales of other encounters between the Saint and other entities, natural and supernatural, which have no similar tradition building out from them to present-day occurrences. They also argue that the monster encounter occurred on the River Ness, not in the loch. Moreover, there are no other accounts of the Loch Ness monster attacking anyone, as the creature is normally portrayed as even being shy. Finally, they point to the necessity of miraculous events in general in writings of the lives of saints, often involving monstrous beasts unknown to science, and that this tale's setting near Loch Ness may have more to do with where Columba lived than any history of Loch Ness being inhabited by large animals, fearsome or not.

1871

Although an alleged sighting in October 1871 by a "D. Mackenzie", who supposedly described seeing something that moved slowly before moving off at a faster speed, has been repeated in several places,[10][11][12] no original 1871 source for this report has been discovered, indicating that it may be an invention.

1933

Although sightings of the creature on land around the loch reputedly date back to the sixth century,[13] modern interest in the monster was sparked by a 22 July 1933 sighting, when George Spicer and his wife saw 'a most extraordinary form of animal' cross the road in front of their car. They described the creature as having a large body (about 4 feet (1 m) high and 25 feet (8 m) long), and long, narrow neck, slightly thicker than an elephant's trunk and as long as the ten- to twelve-feet (3.0–3.7 m) width of the road; the neck had a number of undulations in it. They saw no limbs because of a dip in the road obscuring the animal's lower portion. It lurched across the road towards the loch 20 yards (20 m) away, leaving only a trail of broken undergrowth in its wake.[14]
In August 1933 a motorcyclist named Arthur Grant claimed to have nearly hit the creature while approaching Abriachan on the north-eastern shore, at about 1 am on a moonlit night. Grant saw a small head attached to a long neck; the creature saw him and crossed the road back into the loch. Grant dismounted and followed it to the loch, but only saw ripples.[15] However some believe this was only a joke by a friend of Grant.[16]
In another 1933 sighting, a young maidservant named Margaret Munro supposedly observed the creature for about 20 minutes. It was about 6:30 am on 5 June, when she spotted it on shore from about 200 yards (180 m). She described it as having elephant-like skin, a long neck, a small head and two short forelegs or flippers. The sighting ended when the creature re-entered the water.[15]
Sporadic land sightings continued until 1963, when a poor-quality film of the creature was made from a distance of several miles.[13]

WWII

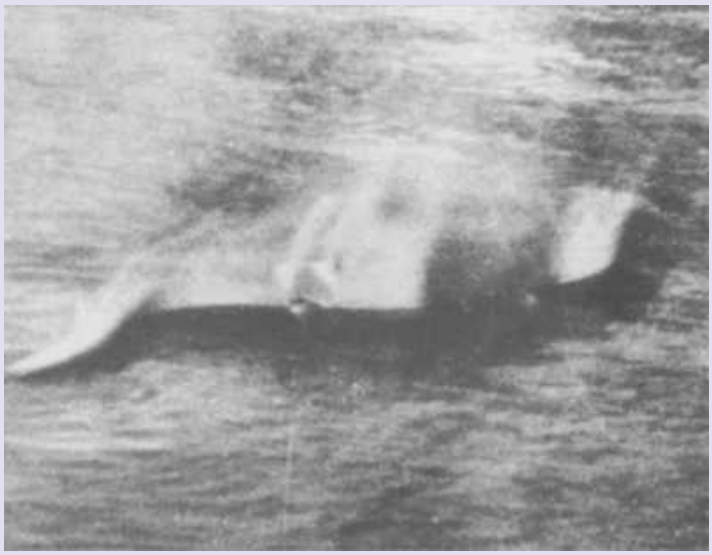
In May 1943, CB Farrel of the Royal Observer Corps was supposedly distracted from his duties by a Nessie sighting. He was about 250 yards (230 m) away from a large-eyed, 'finned' creature, which had a twenty- to thirty-foot (6–9 m) long body,

and a neck that protruded about 4-5 feet (1.2-1.5 m) out of the water.[15]

1950s

In December 1954 a strange sonar contact was made by the fishing boat *Rival III*. The vessel's crew observed sonar readings of a large object keeping pace with the boat at a depth of 480 feet (146 m). It was detected travelling for half a mile (800 m) in this manner, before contact was lost, but then found again later.[15]

Photographs and films



The 'Surgeon's Photo' (1934)

One of the most iconic images of Nessie is known as the 'Surgeon's Photograph' (see top of page), which many formerly considered to be good evidence of the monster. Its importance lies in the fact that it was the only photographic evidence of a "head and neck" – all the others are humps or disturbances.[17] The image was revealed as a hoax in 1994.[18]

Supposedly taken by Mr Robert Kenneth Wilson, a London gynaecologist, it was published in the *Daily Mail* on 21 April 1934.[19] The photo is often cropped to make the monster seem huge, while the original uncropped shot shows the other end of the loch and the monster in the centre.[20] The ripples on the photo fit the size and circular pattern of small ripples as opposed to large waves when photographed up close. Analyses of the original uncropped image have fostered further doubt. A year before the hoax was revealed, the makers of Discovery Communications's documentary *Loch Ness Discovered* did an analysis of the uncropped image and found a white object evident in every version of the photo, implying that it was on the negative. "It seems to be the source of ripples in the water, almost as if the object was towed by something," the narrator said. "But science cannot rule out it was just a blemish on the negative," he continued. Additionally, analysis of the full photograph revealed the object to be quite small, only about 60 to 90 centimetres (two to three ft) long.[21]

In 1979 it was claimed to be a picture of an elephant (see below). Other sceptics in the 1980s argued the photo was that of an otter or a diving bird, but after Christian Spurling's confession most agree it was what Spurling claimed - a toy submarine with a sculpted head attached.[21] The details of how it was done have been given in a book.[22] Essentially, it was a toy submarine with a head and neck made of plastic wood, built by Christian Spurling, the son-in-law of Marmaduke Wetherell, a big game hunter who had been publicly ridiculed in the *Daily Mail*, the newspaper that employed him. Spurling claimed that to get revenge, Marmaduke Wetherell committed the hoax, with the help of Chris Spurling (a sculpture specialist), his son Ian Marmaduke, who bought the material for the fake Nessie, and Maurice Chambers (an insurance agent), who would call to ask surgeon Robert Kenneth Wilson to offer the pictures to the *Daily Mail*.[23] The hoax story is disputed by Henry Bauer,[24] who claims this debunking is evidence of bias, and asks why the perpetrators did not reveal their plot earlier to embarrass the newspaper. He also claimed that plastic wood did not exist in 1934. He was wrong, because it was a popular DIY and modelling material in the 1930s.[25]

Alastair Boyd, one of the researchers who uncovered the hoax, argues the Loch Ness Monster is real, and that the hoaxed Surgeon's Photo is not cause enough to dismiss eyewitness reports and other evidence.[26]

The Taylor film (1938)

In 1938, G.E. Taylor, a South African tourist, filmed something in the loch for three minutes on 16 mm colour film, which is now in the possession of Dr. Maurice Burton. However, Burton has refused to show the film to Loch Ness investigators (such as Peter Costello or the Loch Ness Investigation Bureau). A single frame was published in his book *The Elusive Monster*; before he retired. Dr. Roy P. Mackal, a biologist and cryptozoologist, declared the frame to be "positive evidence".[27] Later, it was shown also to the National Institute of Oceanography, now known as the Southampton Oceanographic Centre. It was agreed by the experts that the film clearly showed an ordinary inanimate object floating in the Loch.[*citation needed*]

The Dinsdale film (1960)

In 1960, aeronautical engineer Tim Dinsdale filmed a hump crossing the water in a powerful wake unlike that of a boat.[1] JARIC declared that the object was "probably animate".[28] Others were sceptical, saying that the "hump" cannot be ruled out as being a boat,[29] and claimed that when the contrast is increased a man can be clearly seen in a boat.[30]
In 1993 Discovery Communications made a documentary called *Loch Ness Discovered* that featured a digital enhancement of the Dinsdale film. A computer expert who enhanced the film noticed a shadow in the negative which was not very obvious in the positive. By enhancing and overlaying frames, he found what appeared to be the rear body, the rear flippers, and 1-2 additional humps of a plesiosaur-like body. He said that: "Before I saw the film, I thought the Loch Ness Monster was a load of rubbish. Having done the enhancement, I'm not so sure".[26] Some have countered this finding by saying that the angle of the film from the horizontal along with sun's angle on that day made shadows underwater unlikely.[31] Believers (and some nonbelievers) claim the shape could have been undisturbed water that was only coincidentally shaped like a plesiosaur's rear end.[32] But the same source also says that there might be a smaller object (hump or head) in front of the hump causing this.[32] Nonetheless, the enhancement did show a smaller second hump and possibly a third hump.

This photo was taken during the Robert Rines expedition in 1972. It purports to show the rhomboid fin or flipper of the Loch Ness monster.

The Holmes video (2007)

On May 26, 2007, Gordon Holmes, a 55-year-old lab technician, captured video of what he said was "this jet black thing, about 45 feet (14 m) long, moving fairly fast in the water." Adrian Shine, a marine biologist at the Loch Ness 2000 centre in Drumnadrochit, has watched the video and plans to analyze it. Shine also described the footage as among "the best footage [he has] ever seen."[33] BBC Scotland broadcast the video on May 29, 2007.[34] stv News' North Tonight aired the footage on May 28, 2007 and interviewed Holmes. In this feature, Adrian Shine of the Loch Ness Centre was also interviewed and suggested that the footage in fact showed an otter, seal or water bird.[35]
Holmes's credibility has been doubted by an article on the Cryptomundo website,[36] which states that he has a history of reporting sightings of cryptozoological creatures, and sells a self-published book and DVD claiming evidence for fairies. His video also has no other objects by which to discern size.[37]

Searches for the monster

Sir Edward Mountain Expedition 1934

Having read the book by Gould,[7] Sir Edward Mountain decided to finance a proper watch in which 20 men with binoculars and cameras were positioned around the Loch from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., starting 13 July 1934 for five weeks. Some 21 photographs were taken, though none was considered conclusive. Captain James Fraser was employed as a supervisor, and remained by the Loch afterwards, taking cine film (which is now lost) on 15 September 1934[38]. When viewed by zoologists and professors of natural history it was concluded that it showed a seal, possibly a grey seal[39].

Loch Ness Phenomena Investigation Bureau (1962-1972)

The Loch Ness Phenomena Investigation Bureau (LNPIB) was a UK-based society formed in 1962 to study Loch Ness to identify the creature known as the Loch Ness Monster or

One of the first organised expeditions was that of Sir Edward Mountain in 1934.

determine the causes of reports of it. It later shortened the name to *Loch Ness Investigation Bureau* (LNIB). It closed in 1972. The society had an annual subscription which covered administration. Its main activity was for groups of self-funded volunteers to watch the loch from various vantage points, equipped with cine cameras with telescopic lenses. Its founders included MP David James and naturalist Peter Scott. From 1965 to 1972 it had a caravan camp and main watching platform at Achnahannet, and sent observers to other locations up and down the loch[40]. According to the 1969 Annual Report of the Bureau,[41] it had 1,030 members, of whom 588 were from the UK. Its directors were listed as Norman Collins (Chairman), Lord Craigmyle, Prof. Roy P. Mackal, Richard Fitter, David James, MP, and Peter Scott.

The LNPIB sonar study (1967-1968)

Professor DG Tucker, chairman of the Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering at the University of Birmingham, England, volunteered his services as a sonar developer and expert at Loch Ness in 1968. The gesture was part of a larger effort helmed by the LNPIB from 1967-1968 and involved collaboration between volunteers and professionals in various fields. Tucker had chosen Loch Ness as the test site for a prototype sonar transducer with a maximum range of 800 metres (2600 ft). The device was fixed underwater at Temple Pier in Urquhart Bay and directed towards the opposite shore, effectively drawing an acoustic 'net' across the width of Ness through which no moving object could pass undetected. During the two-week trial in August, multiple animate targets six metres (20 ft) in length were identified ascending from and diving to the loch bottom.

Analysis of diving profiles ruled out air-breathers because the targets never surfaced or moved shallower than midwater. A brief press release by LNPIB and associates touched on the sonar data and drew to a close the 1968 effort:

" The answer to the question of whether or not unusual phenomena exist in Loch Ness, Scotland, and if so, what their nature might be, was advanced a step forward during 1968, as a result of sonar experiments conducted by a team of scientists under the direction of D. Gordon Tucker... Professor Tucker reported that his fixed beam sonar made contact with large moving objects sometimes reaching speeds of at least 10 knots (19 km/h). He concluded that the objects are clearly animals and ruled out the possibility that they could be ordinary fish. He stated: "The high rate of ascent and descent makes it seem very unlikely that they could be fish, and fishery biologists we have consulted cannot suggest what fish they might be. It is a temptation to suppose they might be the fabulous Loch Ness monsters, now observed for the first time in their underwater activities!"

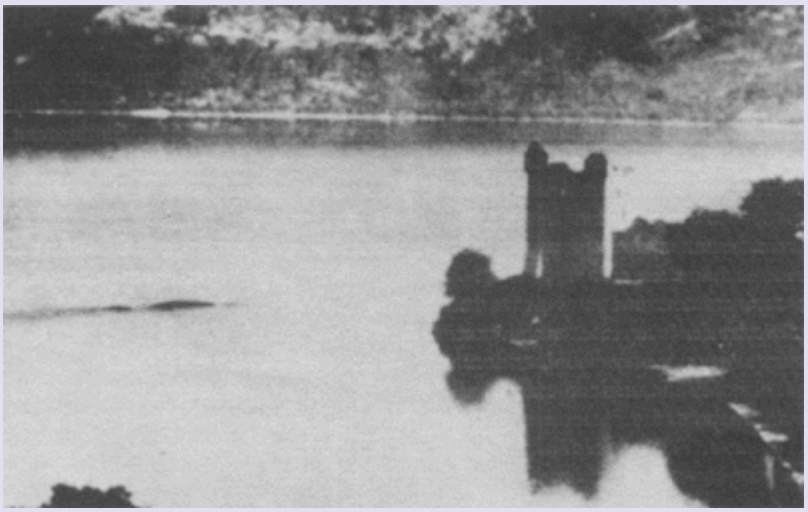
Andrew Carroll's sonar study (1969)

In 1969 Andrew Carroll, field researcher for the New York Aquarium in New York City, proposed a mobile sonar scan operation at Loch Ness. The project was funded by the Griffis foundation (named for Nixon Griffis, then a director of the aquarium). This was the tail-end (and most successful portion) of the LNPIB's 1969 effort involving submersibles with biopsy harpoons. The trawling scan, in Carroll's research launch *Rangitea*, took place in October. One sweep of the loch made contact with a strong, animate echo for nearly three minutes just north of Foyers. The identity of the contact remains a mystery. Later analysis determined that the intensity of the returning echo was twice as great as that expected from a 10-foot (3 m) pilot whale. Calculations placed the contact's length at 20 feet (6 m).

Submersible investigations

Earlier submersible work had yielded dismal results. Under the sponsorship of World Book Encyclopedia, pilot Dan Taylor deployed the *Viperfish* at Loch Ness on 1 June 1969. His dives were plagued by technical problems and produced no new data. The *Deep Star III* built by General Dynamics and an unnamed two-man submersible built by Westinghouse were scheduled to sail but never did. It was only when the *Pisces* arrived at Ness that the LNPIB obtained new data. Owned by Vickers, Ltd., the submersible had been rented out to produce a Sherlock Holmes film featuring a dummy Loch Ness Monster. When the dummy monster broke loose from the

Pisces during filming and sank to the bottom of the loch, Vickers executives capitalized on the loss and 'monster fever' by allowing the sub to do a bit of exploring. During one of these excursions, the *Pisces* picked up a large moving object on sonar 200 feet (60 m) ahead and 50 feet (15 m) above the bottom of the loch. Slowly the pilot closed to half that distance but the echo moved rapidly out of sonar range and disappeared.



1956 - The MacNab Picture

The Big Expedition of 1970

During the so-called "Big Expedition" of 1970, Roy Mackal, a biologist who taught for 20 years at the University of Chicago, devised a system of hydrophones (underwater microphones) and deployed them at intervals throughout the loch. In early August a hydrophone assembly was lowered into Urquhart Bay and anchored in 700 feet (215 m) of water. Two hydrophones were secured at depths of 300 and 600 feet (180 m). After two nights of recording, the tape (sealed inside a 44 imperial gallon (55 US gal/200 L) steel drum along with the system's other sensitive components) was retrieved and played before an excited LNPIB. "Bird-like chirps" had been recorded, and the intensity of the chirps on the deep hydrophone suggested they had been produced at greater depth. In October "knocks" and "clicks" were recorded by another hydrophone in Urquhart Bay, indicative of echolocation. These sounds were followed by a "turbulent swishing" suggestive of the tail locomotion of a large aquatic animal. The knocks, clicks and resultant swishing were believed to be the sounds of an animal echo-locating prey before moving in for the kill. The noises stopped whenever craft passed along the surface of the loch near the hydrophone — and resumed once the craft reached a safe distance. In previous experiments, it was observed that call intensities were greatest at depths less than 100 feet (30 m). Members of the LNPIB decided to attempt communication with the animals producing the calls by playing back previously recorded calls into the water and listening via hydrophone for results, which varied greatly. At times the calling patterns or intensities changed, but sometimes there was no change at all. Mackal noted that there was no similarity between the recordings and the hundreds of known sounds produced by aquatic animals. "More specifically," he said, "competent authorities state that none of the known forms of life in the loch has the anatomical capabilities of producing such calls."

Robert Rines's studies (1972, 1975 and 2001)

In the early 1970s, a group of people led by Robert H. Rines obtained some underwater photographs. One was a vague image, perhaps of a rhomboid flipper (though others have dismissed the image as air bubbles or a fish fin). On the basis of this photograph, British naturalist Peter Scott announced in 1975 that the scientific name of the monster would henceforth be *Nessiteras rhombopteryx* (Greek for "The Ness monster with diamond-shaped fin").[42][43] This would enable Nessie to be added to a British register of officially protected wildlife (but compare [44]). Scottish politician Nicholas Fairbairn pointed out that the name was an anagram for "Monster hoax by Sir Peter S".[45][46]

The underwater photos were reportedly obtained by painstakingly examining the loch depths with sonar for unusual underwater activity. A submersible camera with an affixed, high-powered light (necessary for penetrating Loch Ness' notorious murk) was deployed to record images below the surface. Several of the photographs, despite their obviously murky quality, did indeed seem to show an animal resembling a plesiosaur in various positions and lightings. One photograph appeared to show the head, neck and upper torso of a plesiosaur. [47] Another photo seemed to depict a "gargoyle head", which was later found to be a tree stump during Operation Deepscan.

A few close-ups of what is to be the creature's supposed diamond-shaped fin were taken in different positions, as though the creature was moving. But the "flipper photograph" has been highly retouched from the original image. The *Museum of Hoaxes* shows the original unenhanced photo. Charlie Wyckoff claimed that someone retouched the photo to superimpose the flipper, and that the original enhancement showed a much smaller flipper. No one is exactly sure how the

original came to be enhanced in this way.[48]
In 2001, the Academy of Applied Science, known for Robert Rines' photographs, videoed a powerful V-shaped wake traversing the still water on a calm day.[49]

Discovery Loch Ness (1993)

In 1993 Discovery Communications began to research the ecology of the loch. The study did not focus entirely on the monster, but on the loch's nematodes (of which a new species was discovered) and fish. Expecting to find a small fish population, the researchers caught twenty fish in one catch, increasing previous estimates of the loch's fish population about ninefold.

Using sonar, the team encountered a kind of underwater disturbance (called a seiche) due to stored energy (such as from a wind) causing an imbalance between the loch's warmer and colder layers I(known as the thermocline). While reviewing printouts of the event the next day, they found what appeared to be three sonar contacts, each followed by a powerful wake. These events were later shown on a program called *Loch Ness Discovered*, in conjunction with analyses and enhancements of the 1960 Dinsdale Film, the Surgeon's Photo, and the Rines Flipper Photo.

Plesiosaur and dead creature caught off the coast of New Zealand in 1977 by a Japanese Fishing boat the Zuiyo Maru; 32 feet long weighing two tons.

GUST expedition (2001)

A controversial expedition by the Global Underwater Search Team (GUST) was conducted with advanced sonar equipment to search for the creature. One night, a small sonar contact moved on the screen. On another occasion, a vague disturbance was captured on film. The expedition was shown on a program called *Loch Ness Monster: Search for the Truth*.

Explanations

Many explanations have been postulated over the years to explain the claims for the existence of a Loch Ness Monster. These may be categorized: (1) unknown species of large animals; (2) mystic or paranormal; (3) misidentification of known animals; (4) inanimate objects or effects; (5) hoaxes. Note that believers in (1) or (2) accept that some or even most sightings may be due to (3), (4), and (5). In particular note that most sightings are of a large shape in the water - very few have more details.

Unknown species

In 1961 Dinsdale stated the principal existing animal theories to be (a) Giant Eel, (b) Hypothetical Long-Necked Seal (c) Hypothetical Long-Necked Newt, (d) Evolved Plesiosaur.[50] Later biologist Roy Mackal listed and reviewed these candidates: (a) Pinnipedia (seal family) (b) Sirenia (manatee family) (c) (evolved) plesiosaur (d) amphibians (e) gastropods.[51]

Plesiosaur

In 1933 the suggestion was made that the monster "bears a striking resemblance to the supposedly-extinct plesiosaur",[52] a long-necked aquatic reptile that is thought to have become extinct during the Cretaceous–Tertiary extinction event. At the time, this was a popular and plausible explanation. The following arguments have been put against it.

- Plesiosaurs were probably cold-blooded reptiles requiring warm tropical waters, while the average temperature of Loch Ness is only about 5.5 °C (42 °F). Even if the plesiosaurs were warm-blooded, they would require a food supply beyond that of Loch Ness to maintain the level of activity necessary for warm-blooded animals.• [53]
- In October 2006, the • New Scientist headlined an article "Why the Loch Ness Monster is no plesiosaur" because Leslie Noè of the •

Sedgwick Museum in • Cambridge reported, "The osteology of the neck makes it absolutely certain that the plesiosaur could not lift its head up swan-like out of the water".• [54] However, this does not rule out the reports where a head and neck was not seen.
• The loch is only about 10,000 years old, dating to the end of the last ice age. Prior to that date, the loch was frozen solid for about 20,000 years.• [55]
Thus proponents such as Tim Dinsdale, Peter Scott and Roy Mackal postulate a marine creature which has become trapped and has evolved either **from** a plesiosaur or **to the shape** of a plesiosaur by convergent evolution.[56]

The kelpie is a supernatural water horse from Celtic folklore

Long-necked seal

In 1934 the Sir Edward Mountain expedition analysed film taken the same year and concluded that the monster was a species of seal, which was reported in a national newspaper as "Loch Ness Riddle Solved - Official."[57] This idea was advocated by Peter Costello for both Nessie and other reputed lake monsters. This theory would cover sightings of lake monsters on land, during which the creature supposedly waddled into the lake upon being startled, in the manner of seals.[58] Against this, it has been argued that all known species of pinnipeds are usually visible on land during daylight hours to sunbathe,[59] something that Nessie is not known to do. However seals have been observed and photographed in Loch Ness (see below) and the sightings are sufficiently infrequent to allow for occasional visiting animals rather than a permanent colony.

Eel

A giant eel was actually one of the first suggestions made.[6] Eels live in Loch Ness, and an unusually large eel would fit many sightings. This has been described as a conservative explanation.[60] Eels are not known to protrude swanlike from the water and thus would not account for the head and neck sightings.[61][62] Dinsdale dismissed the proposal because eels move in a side-to-side undulation.[63]

Amphibian

R. T. Gould suggested something like a long-necked newt[64][7] and Roy Mackal discussed this possibility, giving it the highest score (88%) in his list of possible candidates.[65]

Invertebrates

In 1968 Frank Holiday proposed that Nessie and other lake monsters such as Morag could be explained by a giant invertebrate, and cited the extinct *Tullimonstrum* as an example of the shape.[66] He says this provides an explanation for land sightings and for the variable back shape, and relates it to the medieval description of dragons as "worms". Mackal considered this, but found it less convincing than eel, amphibian or plesiosaur types of animal.[67]

Paranormal

Kelpie

According to the Swedish naturalist and author Bengt Sjögren (1980), present day beliefs in lake monsters such as Nessie are associated with the old legends of kelpies. He claims that the accounts of loch monsters have changed over the ages, originally describing a horse appearance; they claimed that the "kelpie" would come out of the lake and turn into a horse. When a tired traveller would get on the back of the kelpie, it would gallop into the loch and devour its prey. This myth successfully kept children away from the loch, as was its purpose. Sjögren concludes that the kelpie legends have developed into more plausible descriptions of lake monsters, reflecting awareness of plesiosaurs. In other words, the kelpie of folklore has been transformed into a more "realistic" and "contemporary" notion of the creature. Believers counter that long-dead witnesses could only compare the creature to that which they were familiar — and were not familiar with plesiosaurs.[68]
Specific mention of the kelpie as a water horse in Loch Ness was given in a Scottish newspaper in 1879,[69] and was commemorated in the title of a book *Project Water Horse* by Tim Dinsdale.[70]

Misidentification of Known Animals

Resident Animals

When viewed through a telescope or binoculars with no outside reference, it is difficult to judge the size of an object in the water. Loch Ness has resident otters and pictures of them are given by Binns,[71] which could be misinterpreted. Likewise he gives pictures of deer swimming in Loch Ness,

and birds which could be taken as a "head and neck" sighting.[72]

Seals

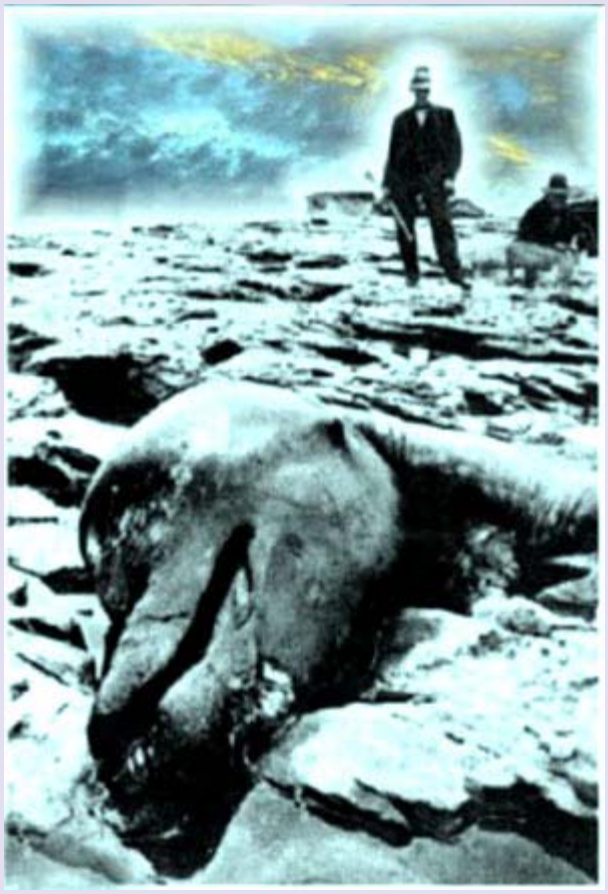
A number of photographs and a video have now been taken which confirm that seals have been present in the Loch, for up to months at a time.[73][74] R.T. Gould wrote "A grey seal has a long and surprisingly extensible neck; it swims with a paddling action; its colour fits the bill; and there is nothing surprising in its being seen on the shore of the loch, or crossing a road[7]. A film taken in 1934 was identified by experts as probably a seal[39]. Seals could also account for sonar traces which act as animate objects.

Bird wakes

There are wake sightings that occur when the loch is dead calm with no boat nearby. A bartender named David Munro claims to have witnessed a wake which he believed to be a creature zigzagging, diving and reappearing. (There were 26 other witnesses from a nearby car park.)[48] Some sightings describe the onset of a V-shaped wake, as if there were something underwater.[49] Moreover, many wake sightings describe something not conforming to the shape of a boat.[26] Under dead calm conditions, a creature too small to be visible to the naked eye can leave a clear v-shaped wake. In particular, a group of swimming birds can give a wake and the appearance of an object. A group of birds can leave the water and then land again, giving a sequence of wakes like an object breaking the surface, which Dick Raynor says is a possible explanation for his film.[75]

Elephant

In a 1979 article, California biologist Dennis Power and geographer Donald Johnson claimed that the Surgeon's photograph (see top of page) was in fact the top of the head, extended trunk and flared nostrils of a swimming elephant, probably photographed elsewhere and claimed to be from Loch Ness.[76] In 2006, palaeontologist and artist Neil Clark similarly suggested that travelling circuses might have allowed elephants to refresh themselves in the loch and that the trunk could therefore be the head and neck, with the elephant's head and back providing the humps. In support of this he provided a painting.[77]



This apparent Plesiosaur specimen washed ashore in Monterey Bay, California in 1925. It sported a twenty foot or so long neck and some witnesses described a number of legs on the creature.

Inanimate Objects or Effects

Trees

In 1933 the Daily Mirror showed a picture with the following caption 'This queerly-shaped tree-trunk, washed ashore at Foyers may, it is thought, be responsible for the reported appearance of a "Monster"'.[78] (Foyers is on Loch Ness.)

In a 1982 series of articles for *New Scientist*, Dr Maurice Burton proposed that sightings of Nessie and similar creatures could actually be fermenting logs of Scots pine rising to the surface of the loch's cold waters. Initially, a rotting log could not release gases caused by decay, because of high levels of resin sealing in the gas. Eventually, the gas pressure would rupture a resin seal at one end of the log, propelling it through the water — and sometimes to the surface. Burton claimed that the shape of tree logs with their attendant branch stumps closely resemble various descriptions of the monster.[79][80][81]

Four Scottish lochs are very deep, including Morar, Ness and Lomond. Only the lochs with pinewoods on their shores have monster legends; Loch Lomond — with no pinewoods — does not. Gaseous emissions and surfactants resulting from the decay of the logs can cause the foamy wake reported in some sightings. Indeed, beached pine logs showing evidence of deep-water fermentation have been found. On the other hand, there are believers who assert that some lakes do have reports of monsters, despite an absence of pinewoods; a notable example would be the Irish lough monsters.[82]

Seiches and wakes

Loch Ness, because of its long, straight shape, is subject to some unusual occurrences affecting its surface. A seiche is a large, regular oscillation of a lake, caused by a water reverting to its natural level after being blown to one end of the lake. The impetus from this reversion continues to the lake's windward end and then reverts back. In Loch Ness, the process occurs every 31.5 minutes.[83]
Boat wakes can also produce strange effects in the loch. As a wake spreads and divides from a boat passing the centre of the loch, it hits both sides almost simultaneously and deflects back to meet again in the middle. The movements interact to produce standing waves that are much larger than the original wake, and can have a humped appearance. By the time this occurs, the boat has passed and the unusual waves are all that can be seen.[84][85]

Optical effects

Wind conditions can give a slightly choppy and thus matt appearance to the water, with occasional calm patches appearing as dark ovals (reflecting the mountains) from the shore, which can appear as humps to visitors unfamiliar with the lake. In 1979, Lehn showed that atmospheric refraction could distort the shape and size of objects and animals,[86] and later showed a photograph of a rock mirage on Lake Winnipeg which could represent a head and neck.[87]

Seismic gas

The Italian geologist Luigi Piccardi has proposed geological explanations for some ancient legends and myths. He pointed out that in the earliest recorded sighting of a creature, the Life of St. Columba, the creature's emergence was accompanied "cum ingenti fremitu" (with very loud roaring). The Loch Ness is located along the Great Glen Fault, and this could be a description of an earthquake. Furthermore, in many sightings, the report consists of nothing more than a large disturbance on the surface of the water. This could be caused by a release of gas from through the fault, although it could easily be mistaken for a large animal swimming just below the surface.[88]

Hoaxes

The Loch Ness monster phenomenon has seen several attempts to hoax the public, some of which were very successful. Other hoaxes were revealed rather quickly by the perpetrators, or exposed after diligent research. A few examples are mentioned below.

In the 1930s, a big game hunter named Marmaduke Wetherell went to Loch Ness to look for the Loch Ness Monster. He claimed to have found some footprints but when the footprints were sent to scientists for analysis, they turned out to be hippopotamus footprints. A prankster had used a hippopotamus foot umbrella stand to make the footprints.[89]
In 2004, a documentary team for Five, using special effects experts from movies, tried to make people believe there was something in the loch. They constructed an animatronic model of a plesiosaur, and dubbed it "Lucy". Despite setbacks, such as Lucy falling to the bottom of the loch, about 600 sightings were reported on the day, in the places they conducted the hoaxes.[90]

In 2005, two students claimed to have found a huge tooth embedded in the body of a deer on the loch shore. They publicised the find widely, even setting up a website, but expert analysis soon revealed that the "tooth" was the antler of a muntjac.[91]

References

1. ^ The date is inferred from the oldest written source reporting a monster in Loch Ness, the Life of St. Columba (chapter 28).
2. ^ The Sun 27 November 1975
3. ^ Daily Mirror, 11 August 1933
4. ^ The Oxford English Dictionary gives 9 June 1933 as the first usage of the exact phrase Loch Ness monster
5. ^ R. P. Mackal (1983)The Monsters of Loch Ness page 94
6. ^ a b Daily Mirror 8 December 1933
7. ^ a b c d Gould, Rupert T. (1934). The Loch Ness Monster and Others. London: Geoffrey Bles.
8. ^ Lister, David (2007-09-29). "Has scepticism done for the Loch Ness Monster?". The Times. Retrieved on 2007-09-29.
9. ^ The Birth of Nations: Scotland
10. ^ The Loch Ness Monster
11. ^ Le monstre du loch Ness
12. ^ Nessie the Loch Ness Monster - CoverUps.com
13. ^ a b Lochness.co.uk: Sightings on Land
14. ^ Drawings and Opinions
15. ^ a b c d Searching for Nessie
16. ^ "He had apparently fallen off his motor bike and told his mother that the damage to the bike was caused by the monster making him crash! Will all authors please stop treating this sighting as if it were genuine." in Loch-Ness.com: Land Sightings
17. ^ R. P. Mackal (1976) The Monsters of Loch Ness page 208
18. ^ Daily Mirror 14 March 1994 Loch Ness Fraudster
19. ^ Daily Mail 21 April 1934
20. ^ NOVA Online | The Beast of Loch Ness | Birth of a Legend (3)
21. ^ a b The Loch Ness Monster and the Surgeon's Photo
22. ^ D. M. Martin & A. Boyd (1999) Nessie – the Surgeon's Photograph Exposed ISBN 0953570800
23. ^ The UnMuseum - Loch Ness Hoax Photo
24. ^ H. H. Bauer (2001) Fatal Attractions: The Troubles with Science ISBN 1931044287
25. ^ The Oxford English Dictionary gives a 1921 quotation "This material..is named by the firm 'Plastic Wood'.". Hobbies weekly magazine issue 1 (October 1930) carried an article Plastic Wood and its many uses. The Daily Mirror, Wed 21 Feb 1934 page 025 recommends the use of Rawlplug Plastic Wood.
26. ^ a b c Discovery Communications, Loch Ness Discovered, 1993
27. ^ Janet and Colin Bord, 'Alien Animals' (Granada 1986) p18
28. ^ Evidence Pages - Film and Video
29. ^ Analysis of the Tim Dinsdale film
30. ^ Loch Ness
31. ^ cyberspace - a nessie faq
32. ^ a b Bauer, Henry H., "Common Knowledge about the Loch Ness Monster", Journal of Scientific Exploration, 16(3): 455--477 (2002)

(Cont. on page 76)

The Needles UFO Crash: What Really Happened?

By UFOguy

On May 14, 2008, an oval object with a turquoise glow fell out of the sky around three o'clock in the morning and crashed west of the Colorado River near Needles, California. The crash was almost immediately followed by the appearance of unmarked vehicles with government license plates manned by non-uniformed personnel, a small fleet of transport aircrafts and helicopters including a sky crane which later removed the object. Like many incidents of this kind, this one quickly became a non-event. So what really happened?

It's important to understand that the object in question has been seen in the Needles area before and elsewhere as well. An object described as oval shaped with a turquoise glow was spotted by a motorist traveling just west of Needles on I-40 on April 17, 2002 at around three thirty in the morning. During that incident the object hovered above the road in mid-air. Another sighting occurred in 1997 near Columbus, Ohio. A photographer was filming clouds when a glowing object described as turquoise in color appeared on several of the frames that were photographed. The object wasn't seen through the camera lens at the time the photos were taken.

Needles, California, is located in the Mojave Valley and is a part of San Bernardino County. It's just across the bridge from Arizona and near the Nevada border as well. Historic Route 66 and I-40 run through the town with a population of between 5000 and 6000 people. Originally named for a group of pointed rocks on the Arizona side of the Colorado River, Needles was founded in 1883 and has been an important stopping place for people traveling east to west into California ever since. It's also the kind of place where the crash of something strange might go unnoticed if it occurred outside of town. Fortunately, this crash had witnesses.

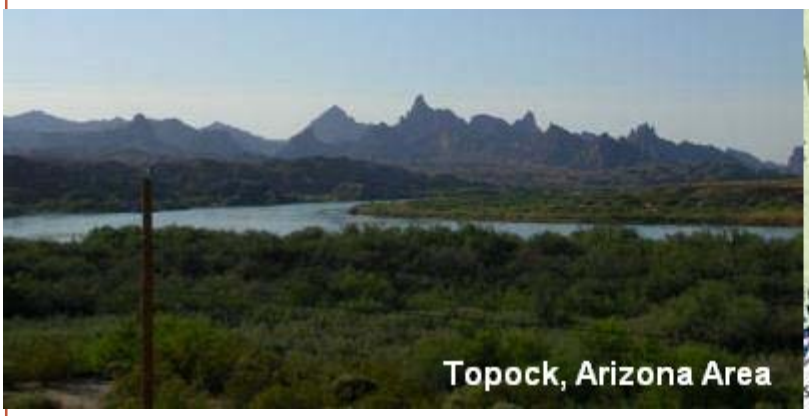
The first witness to the May 14, 2008 incident was a person we'll call Bob. He lives on a houseboat in Topock, Arizona, a town that is little more than a Marina and a couple of stores near Golden Shores. Bob reported seeing a glowing turquoise-blue-green object high in the sky and headed in his direction around three o'clock in the morning. He was sitting on the upper deck of his houseboat at the time. As it passed, he said that it looked as though the thing was on fire. He saw the object hit the ground somewhere west of the Colorado River on the California side. It bounced once and he recalled hearing a noise like a thump.

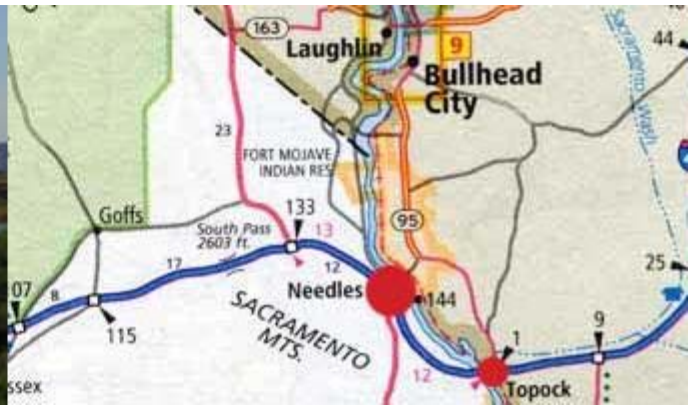
Thinking that some kind of plane had crashed, Bob tried using his satellite phone to call 911. His phone would not connect. After the crash, Bob heard the sound of helicopters approaching and reported seeing five of them flying in formation less than twenty minutes after the object hit the ground. One of them circled his houseboat before rejoining the others. Another was a sky crane that retrieved the oval-shaped object while it was still glowing with some kind of cables or a net and flew away with it. The crash occurred between Topock and Needles, west of the Colorado River and south of Needles.

Frank Costigan lives three miles east of the Colorado River and became the second witness to the May 14, 2008 incident. He got up around three in the morning to let his cat out. While standing in his backyard, Frank noticed a large glowing object streaking across the sky. It flashed a number of colors including turquoise, blue and green. The object was headed towards the ground and he expected to hear some sort of impact noise. Costigan later offered this statement:

"I thought I might hear something when it hit the ground because if it was as close as I thought it was and as big as it was, I thought I would hear something. But I did not hear anything. And it went out of my view before it hit the ground… It went behind a hill, and I waited to see if I could hear it crash because as big as it was, it was bound to make noise."

Costigan reported that the object was bright enough to illuminate the ground. He said that it came out of the northeast, headed southwest at a tremendous speed, slowed down and speeded up again before moving out of his sight. Frank is a retired Superintendent of Operations and Police Chief. He worked at Los Angeles International Airport





(LAX) from 1978 until 1985 and at Ontario (California) International Airport from 1985 to 1986. He occasionally does special reports and news investigations for KTOX, an AM radio station in Needles, California. Frank later told David Hayes, the station owner, about the bizarre object he saw earlier that morning. Hayes surprised Costigan with his own strange story.

While driving on I-40 on his way to work that morning, Hayes saw a small convoy of darkly-painted vehicles exiting the highway. The vehicles had black and white government license plates. The lead truck looked a bit like a very large SUV with a dome on top, a truck bed and appeared to have

Hayes and Costigan reported the strange events that occurred on May 14, 2008 during regular programming at KTOX for days and asked for any other witnesses to come forward. That's how they obtained the story from Bob and he wasn't the only person to call in. Someone known to them from nearby Laughlin, Nevada, phoned to report that Janet planes where taking off and landing at the Laughlin Airport all night on the date that the crash occurred. Because the airport and control tower were closed at the time, Laughlin Airport personnel cannot confirm the presence of the Janet planes on the night in question.

Janet planes are the nickname some have given to the aircrafts that fly workers in and out of Area 51. A small

four wheel drive. The vehicle may have been carrying a remote controlled drone. Hayes said that he could see a triangular object that sat on top of several small humps in the truck bed and that it reminded him of the look of a stealth bomber.

A dark green van followed behind the first vehicle and a longer van followed the green one. Hayes told Costigan that he could see men inside the trucks. They did not have military uniforms on, but after he made eye contact with the driver of the third vehicle, it followed him to the radio station. One of the trucks returned later that day and briefly parked outside the KTOX building. It seemed to be involved in some sort of surveillance of the radio station.

terminal exists at McCarran Airport in Las Vegas for the mysterious airline operated by EE&G (a U.S. Government contractor). Large and smaller passenger jets and a few prop planes ferry workers to Groom Lake in Area 51 and the Tonopah Test Range, but there is no reason to expect that such aircraft would land in Laughlin. Because the airport and control tower were closed at the time, Laughlin Airport personnel cannot confirm the presence of the Janet planes on the night in question.

Strange things continued to happen in the Needles area after the crash. No one seems able to locate Bob and many believe he has left the area. Toni Sagan, a member of the River Valley Democratic Club in the area, was questioned by a stranger at a club meeting after she appeared on the radio

station to talk about the 2008 presidential race. The man wanted to know if she heard any off-air conversations between David Hayes and a witness to the crash he had on the phone. Toni said that she had never seen the man before and that he seemed out of place in terms of the way he dressed as compared to most people that live in the area.

Although a public shows that at least one military helicopter was in the area on the night of the crash, there are no police, emergency, military or government agencies willing to offer any comments on the incident. Noted journalist George Knapp and members of the Channel 8 (CBS Network TV Affiliate in Las Vegas) Investigative Team say they have contacted "police agencies in three states, the Laughlin Airport, the weather service, the FAA and several military bases" asking for any kind of statement about the incident. All of them claim they know nothing about the crash.

Based on the description of the object and the circumstances surrounding its retrieval, it is doubtful that the thing was a meteorite. It could have been space junk, but the fact that it changed speed and seemed under some kind of intelligent control makes that unlikely. It's possible that the object could have been some type of experimental U.S. aircraft, but given the descriptions that have been offered, it seems to be a bit beyond what even the best secret aircraft prognosticators have predicted we currently have available.

Two possibilities remain that might explain what happened in the Needles area on May 14, 2008. One is that a UFO or spacecraft of unknown origin was tracked by government authorities to the point where it made contact with the earth. With retrieval teams standing by, the object was quickly removed from the area and any necessary clean-up was accomplished without much notice. The other is that a UFO or spacecraft of unknown origin was being test-flown by a human pilot from Area 51 and simply malfunctioned causing the subsequent actions. For more, visit http://newsletter.ufoguy.com

SAUCERS&ALIENS

UNEXPLAINED AMERICA

Strange & Unsolved Mysteries from America's Haunted Past

(Courtesy of Cathy Wilkins)

"Mothman", as the strange creature came to be called, is perhaps one of the strangest creatures to ever grace the annals of weirdness in America. Even though this mysterious and unsolved case has nothing to do with ghosts, it would be remiss of me to not include it in a section of the website about the unexplained.

MOTHMAN

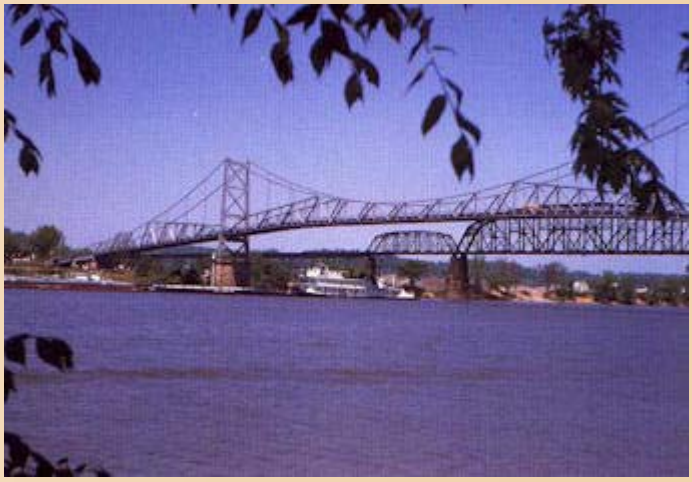
The Enigma of Point Pleasant

The weird events connected to the Mothman began on November 12, 1966 near Clendenin, West Virginia. Five men were in the local cemetery that day, preparing a grave for a burial, when something that looked like a "brown human being" lifted off from some nearby trees and flew over their heads. The men were baffled. It did not appear to be a bird, but more like a man with wings. A few days later, more sightings would take place, electrifying the entire region.

Late in the evening of November 15, two young married couples had a very strange encounter as they drove past an abandoned TNT plant near Point Pleasant, West Virginia. The couples spotted two large eyes that were attached to something that was "shaped like a man, but bigger, maybe six or seven feet tall. And it had big wings folded against its back". When the creature moved toward the plant door, the couples panicked and sped away. Moments later, they saw the same creature on a hillside near the road. It spread its wings and rose into the air, following with their car, which by now was traveling at over 100 miles per hour. "That bird kept right up with us," said one of the group. They told Deputy Sheriff Millard Halstead that it followed them down Highway 62 and right to the Point Pleasant city limits. And they would not be the only ones to report the creature that night. Another group of four witnesses claimed to see the "bird" three different times!

Another sighting had more bizarre results. At about 10:30 on that same evening, Newell Partridge, a local building contractor who lived in Salem (about 90 miles from Point Pleasant), was watching television when the screen suddenly went dark. He stated that a weird pattern filled the screen and then he heard a loud, whining sounds from outside that raised in pitch and then ceased. "It sounded like a generator winding up" he later stated. Partridge's dog, Bandit, began to howl out on the front porch and Newell went out to see what was going on.

When he walked outside, he saw Bandit facing the hay barn, about 150 yards from the house. Puzzled, Partridge turned a flashlight in that direction and spotted two red circles that looked like eyes or "bicycle reflectors". They moving red orbs were certainly not animal's eyes, he believed, and the sight of them frightened him. Bandit, an experienced hunting dog and protective of his territory, shot off across the yard in pursuit of the glowing eyes. Partridge called for him to stop, but the animal paid no attention. His owner turned and went back into the house for his gun, but then was too scared to go back outside again. He slept that night with his gun propped up next to the bed. The next morning, he realized that Bandit had disappeared. The dog had still not shown up two days later when Partridge read in the newspaper about the sightings in Point Pleasant that night.



The Silver Bridge (Photo Courtesy of William Wright)

One statement that he read in the newspaper chilled him to the bone. Roger Scarberry, one member of the group who spotted the strange "bird" at the TNT plant, said that as they entered the city limits of Point Pleasant, they saw the body of a large dog lying on the side of the road. A few minutes later, on the way back out of town, the dog was gone. They even stopped to look for the body, knowing they had passed it just a few minutes before. Newell Partridge immediately thought of Bandit, who was never seen again.

On November 16, a press conference was held in the county courthouse and the couples from the TNT plant sighting repeated their story. Deputy Halstead, who had known the couples all of their lives, took them very seriously. "They've never been in any trouble," he told investigators and had no reason to doubt their stories. Many of the reporters who were present for the weird recounting felt the same way. The news of the strange sightings spread around the world. The press dubbed the odd flying creature "Mothman", after a character from the popular Batman television series of the day.

The remote and abandoned TNT plant became the lair of the Mothman in the months ahead and it could not have picked a better place to hide in. The area was made up of several hundred acres of woods and large concrete domes where high explosives were stored during World War II. A network of tunnels honeycombed the area and made it possible for the creature to move about without being seen. In addition to the manmade labyrinth, the area was also comprised of the McClintic Wildlife Station, a heavily forested animal preserve filled with woods, artificial ponds and steep ridges and hills. Much of the property was almost inaccessible and without a doubt, Mothman could have hid for weeks or months and remained totally unseen. The only people who ever wandered there were hunters and fishermen and the local teenagers, who used the rutted dirt roads of the preserve as "lover's lanes".

Very few homes could be found in the region, but one dwelling belonged to the Ralph Thomas family. One November 16, they spotted a "funny red light" in the sky that moved and hovered above the TNT plant. "It wasn't an airplane", Mrs. Marcella Bennett (a friend of the Thomas family) said, "but we couldn't figure out what it was." Mrs. Bennett drove to the Thomas house a few minutes later and got out of the car with her baby. Suddenly, a figure stirred near the automobile. "It seemed as though it had been lying down," she later recalled. "It rose up slowly from the ground. A big gray thing. Bigger than a man with terrible glowing eyes."

Mrs. Bennett was so horrified that she dropped her little girl! She quickly recovered, picked up her child and ran to the house. The family locked everyone inside but hysteria gripped them as the creature shuffled onto the porch and peered into the windows. The police were summoned, but the Mothman had vanished by the time the authorities had arrived.

Mrs. Bennett would not recover from the incident for months and was in fact so distraught that she sought medical attention to deal with her anxieties. She was tormented by frightening dreams and later told investigators that she believed the creature had visited her own home too. She said that she could often hear a keening sounds (like a woman screaming) near her isolated home on the edge of Point Pleasant.

Mothman

Many would come to believe that the sightings of Mothman, as well as UFO sightings and encounters with "men in black" in the area, were all related. For nearly a year, strange happenings continued in the area. Researchers, investigators and "monster hunters" descended on the area but none so famous as author John Keel, who has written extensively about Mothman and other unexplained anomalies. He has written for many years about UFO's but dismisses the standard "extraterrestrial" theories of the mainstream UFO movement. For this reason, he has been a controversial figure for decades. According to Keel, man has had a long history of interaction with the supernatural. He believes that the intervention of mysterious strangers in the lives of historic personages like Thomas Jefferson and Malcolm X provides evidence of the continuing presence of the "gods of old". The manifestation of these elder gods comes in the form of UFO's and aliens, monsters, demons, angels and even ghosts. He has remained a colorful character to many and yet remains respected in the field for his research and fascinating writings.

Keel became the major chronicler of the Mothman case and wrote that at least 100 people personally witnessed the creature between November 1966 and November 1967. According to their reports, the creature stood between five and seven feet tall, was wider than a man and shuffled on human-like legs. Its eyes were set near the top of the shoulders and had bat-like wings that glided, rather than flapped, when it flew. Strangely though, it was able to ascend straight up "like a helicopter". Witnesses also described its murky skin as being either gray or brown and it emitted a humming sound when it flew. The Mothman was apparently incapable of speech and gave off a screeching sound. Mrs. Bennett stated that it sounded like a "woman screaming".

John Keel arrived in Point Pleasant in December 1966 and immediately began collecting reports of Mothman sightings and even UFO reports from before the creature was seen. He also compiled evidence that suggested a problem with televisions and phones that began in the fall of 1966. Lights had been seen in the skies, particularly around the TNT plant, and cars that passed along the nearby road sometimes stalled without explanation. He and his fellow researchers also uncovered a number of short-lived poltergeist cases in the Ohio Valley area. Locked doors opened and closed by themselves, strange thumps were heard inside and outside of homes and often, inexplicable voices were heard. The James Lilley family, who lived just south of the TNT plant, were so bothered by the bizarre events that they finally sold their home and moved to another neighborhood. Keel was convinced that the intense period of activity was all connected.

And stranger things still took place..... A reporter named Mary Hyre, who was the Point Pleasant correspondent for the Athens, Ohio newspaper the Messenger, also wrote extensively about the local sightings. In fact, after one very active weekend, she was deluged with over 500 phone calls from people who saw strange lights in the skies. One night in January 1967, she was working late in her office in the county courthouse and a man walked in the door. He was very short and had strange eyes that were covered with thick glasses. He also had long, black hair that was cut squarely "like a bowl haircut". Hyre said that he spoke in a low, halting voice and he asked for directions to Welsh, West Virginia. She thought that he had some sort of speech impediment and for some reason, he terrified her. "He kept getting closer and closer to me, " she said, " and his funny eyes were staring at me almost hypnotically."

Alarmed, she summoned the newspaper's circulation manager to her office and together, they spoke to the strange little man. She said that at one point in the discussion, she answered the telephone when it rang and she noticed the little man pick up a pen from her desk. He looked at it in amazement, "as if he had never seen a pen before." Then, he grabbed the pen, laughed loudly and ran out of the building.

Several weeks later, Hyre was crossing the street near her office and saw the same man on the street. He appeared to be startled when he realized that she was watching him, turned away quickly and ran for a large black car that suddenly came around the corner. The little man climbed in and it quickly drove away.

By this time, most of the sightings had come to an end and Mothman had faded away into the strange "twilight zone" from which he had come... but the story of Point

The stainless steel mothman statue in Main Street, Point Pleasant.

Pleasant had not yet ended. At around 5:00 in the evening on December 15, 1967, the 700-foot bridge linking Point Pleasant to Ohio suddenly collapsed while filled with rush hour traffic. Dozens of vehicles plunged into the dark waters of the Ohio River and 46 people were killed. Two of those were never found and the other 44 are buried together in the town cemetery of Gallipolis, Ohio.

On that same tragic night, the James Lilley family (who still lived near the TNT plant at that time) counted more than 12 eerie lights that flashed above their home and vanished into the forest.

The collapse of the Silver Bridge made headlines all over the country and Mary Hyre went days without sleep as reporters and television crews from everywhere descended on the town. The local citizens were stunned with horror and disbelief and the tragedy is still being felt today.

During Christmas week, a short, dark-skinned man entered the office of Mary Hyre. He was dressed in a black suit, with a black tie, and she said that he looked vaguely Oriental. He had high cheekbones, narrow eyes and an unidentified accent. He was not interested in the bridge disaster, she said, but wanted to know about local UFO sightings. Hyre was too busy to talk with him and she handed her a file of related press clipping instead. He was not interested in them and insisted on speaking with her. She finally dismissed him from her office.

That same night, an identically described man visited the homes of several witnesses in the area who had reported seeing the lights in the sky. He made all of them very uneasy and uncomfortable and while he claimed to be a reporter from Cambridge, Ohio, he inadvertently admitted that he did not know where Columbus, Ohio was even though the two towns are just a few miles apart.

So who was Mothman and what was behind the strange events in Point Pleasant?

Whatever the creature may have been, it seems clear that Mothman was no hoax. There were simply too many

credible witnesses who saw "something". It was suggested at the time that the creature may have been a sandhill crane, which while they are not native to the area, could have migrated south from Canada. That was one explanation anyway, although it was one that was rejected by Mothman witnesses, who stated that what they saw looked nothing like a crane.

Visit Troy Taylor's website www.prairieghosts.com.

But there could have been a logical explanation for some of the sightings. Even John Keel (who believed the creature was genuine) suspected that a few of the cases involved people who were spooked by recent reports and saw owls flying along deserted roads at night. Even so, Mothman remains hard to easily dismiss. The case is filled with an impressive number of multiple-witness sightings by individuals that were deemed reliable, even by law enforcement officials.

But if Mothman was real... and he truly was some unidentified creature that cannot be explained, what was behind the UFO sightings, the poltergeist reports, the strange lights, sounds, the "men in black" and most horrifying, the collapse of the Silver Bridge?

John Keel believes that Point Pleasant was a "window" area, a place that was marked by long periods of strange sightings, monster reports and the coming and going of unusual persons. He states that it may be wrong to blame the collapse of the bridge on the local UFO sightings, but the intense activity in the area at the time does suggest some sort of connection. Others have pointed to another supernatural link to the strange happenings, blaming the events on the legendary Cornstalk Curse that was placed on Point Pleasant in the 1770's. (Click Here to Discover the details about the Cornstalk Curse)

And if such things can happen in West Virginia, then why not elsewhere in the country? Can these "window" areas explain other phantom attackers, mysterious creatures, mad gassers and more that have been reported all over America? Perhaps they can, but to consider this, we have to consider an even more chilling question... where will the next "window" area be? It might be of benefit to study your local sightings and weird events a little more carefully in the future!

© Copyright 2001 by Troy Taylor. All Rights Reserved.

SAUCERS&ALIENS

Sources and Recommended Bibliography:

Unexplained! by Jerome Clark (1999)
The Mothman Prophecies by John Keel (1975)
The Complete Guide to Mysterious Beings by John Keel (1970 / 1994)
Our Haunted Planet by John Keel (1971)
Disneyland of the Gods by John Keel (1988)
The Silver Bridge by Gray Barker (1970)
Mysterious America by Loren Coleman (1983 / 2000)

The Northern Georgia Bigfoot Body

By Bill Knell

Confusion reigns over a carcass that was allegedly found in the northern Georgia wilderness by Matthew Whitton and Rick Dyer. The carcass is said to be the remains of a Bigfoot, the often elusive ape-like creature that roams the most isolated parts of wooded areas around the world. Described as being male, over seven feet tall with reddish hair, black-grey eyes and weighing over five hundred pounds, the body has two arms, two legs, five fingers on each hand and five toes on each foot. The problem with this find is that no one can seem to agree on exactly what it is.

Additional information about Searching for Bigfoot, Inc. is available at http://www.searchingforbigfoot.com.

Matthew Whitton, a 28-year-old officer with the Clayton County Police department and Rick Dyer, a former corrections officer, found the carcass in July. While the two men seem credible enough, the Fayetteville Daily News says they co-own a company that offers Bigfoot exploration expeditions. The Fayetteville, Georgia, based newspaper claims their company is linked to a website called BigfootTracker.com which has had little to say about the amazing find. The only reported statement on the website related to the discovery of the carcass declared, "We have located a family of Bigfoot, and besides the clear photos and video, we have something even more shocking, a BODY."

Shortly after the two men announced their find, the Chief of the Clayton County Police Department where Matthew Whitton is employed was asked about Officer Whitton and his claim. Police Chief Jeff Turner told the Fayetteville Daily News, "That's his own personal business. That has nothing to do with the business of the Clayton County Police Department. As long as he's not engaged in any type of illegal activity, his business is his business." The Chief seemed unhappy that his department had somehow been linked to the finding of the carcass.

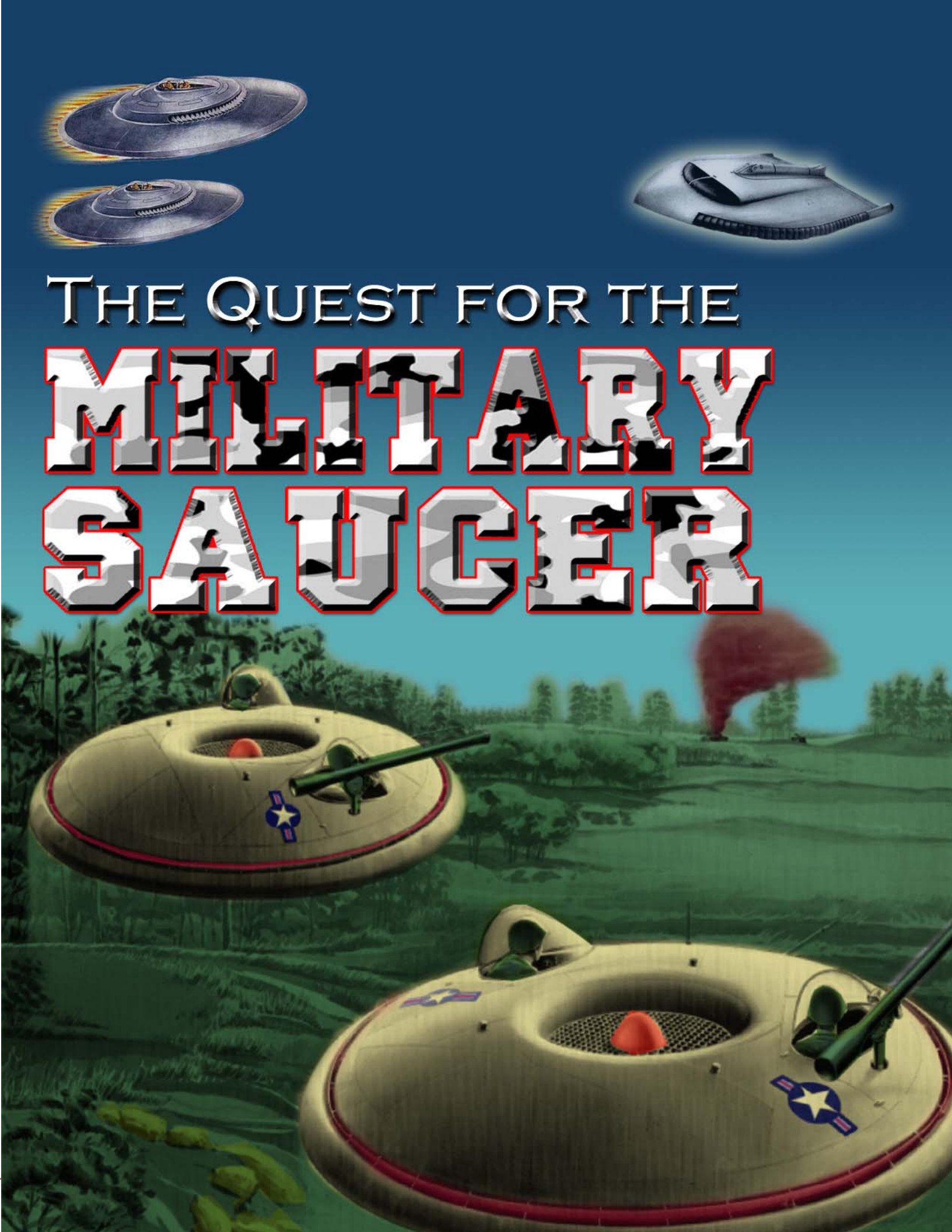
Chief Turner said it was "against department policy for an officer to represent himself or herself online, as an officer or anything other than an individual, private citizen." Officer Whitton is on leave from the Clayton County Police Department, recovering from a gunshot wound to the hand that he suffered while responding to an armed robbery call in early July. Despite a lack of support from his Chief, it's fair to say that Whitton has placed his credibility on the line and someone with a job like his would probably not do so unless he was certain his find was genuine.

According to Tom Biscardi from SearchingForBigfoot.com, "The creature looks like it is part human and part ape-like." Biscardi is a veteran Bigfoot researcher who became interested in the phenomenon after seeing the famous 8mm Patterson film of Bigfoot on the Johnny Carson Show in 1967. He began seriously looking for Bigfoot in 1971 and hasn't stopped since. However, he has also added to the confusion that surrounds the Georgia carcass because of a 2005 claim he made on a national radio show about finding another Bigfoot body that turned out to be untrue.

Detractors claim that Biscardi used his 2005 story to try and raise funds for a Pay Per View special about Bigfoot and a new company that was going to go out and look for the creature. To be fair, Tom has spent what amounts to a small fortune of his own looking for the beast. And as far as the 2005 statement goes, it's entirely possible that Biscardi was relating information that was second hand. Anyone that has been researching paranormal phenomenon for more than five minutes has probably been contacted by someone with "amazing evidence." Later, they find out that the person did not really have it or that the evidence wasn't anything like what it was expected to be.

The real test of legitimacy for this alleged Bigfoot evidence will be how it is presented. So far, the signs are not so good. A one-hour press conference is scheduled for Friday, August 15, 2008, at the Cabana Hotel in Palo Alto, California. It is not open to the public and only "credentialed" members of the press with be allowed in. The organizers

(Cont on page 75)

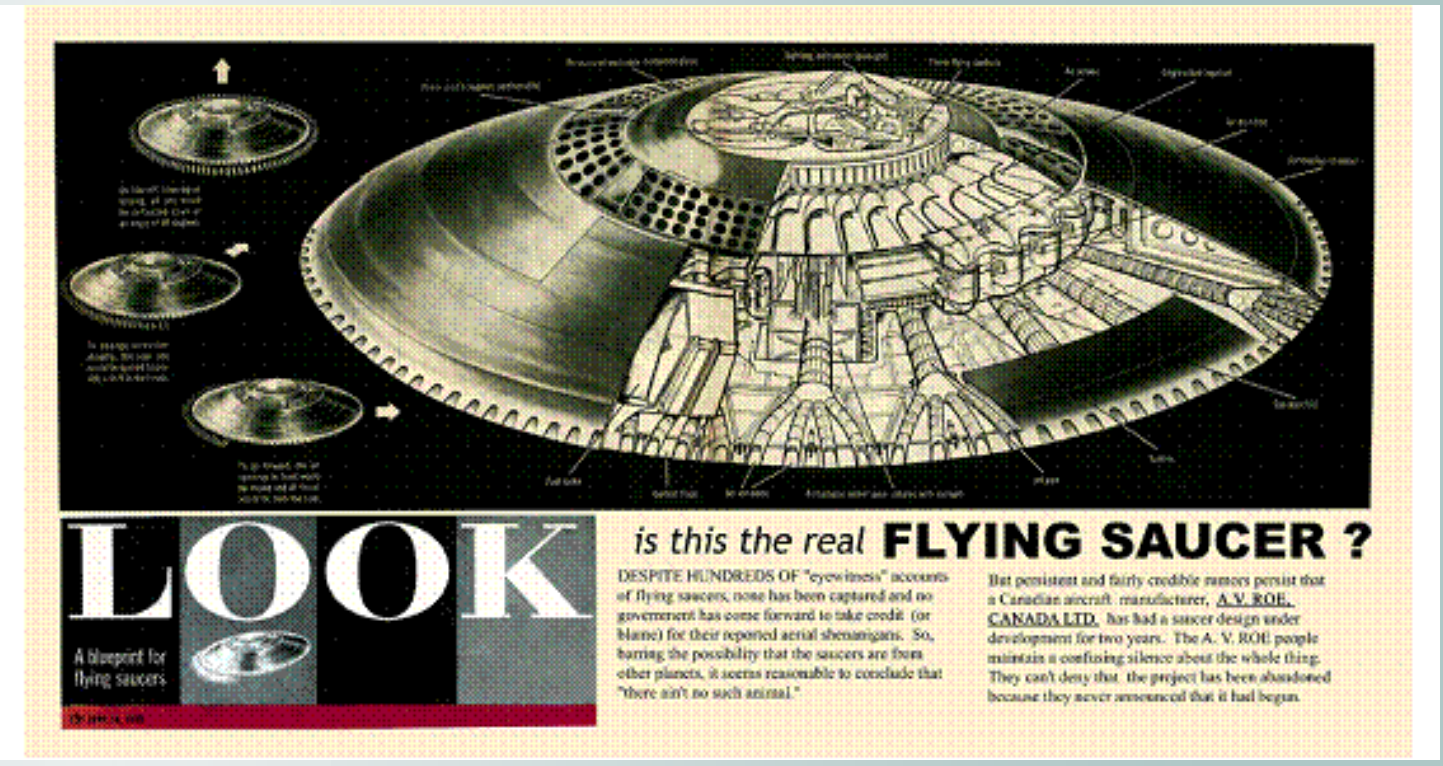

THE QUEST FOR THE
MILITARY
SAUCER

The VZ-9-AV Avrocar (official designation but often listed as VZ-9) was a Canadian VTOL aircraft developed by Avro Aircraft Ltd. as part of a secret U.S. military project carried out in the early years of the Cold War.[2] The Avrocar intended to exploit the Coanda(effect to provide lift and thrust from a single "turborotor" blowing exhaust out the rim of the disk-shaped aircraft to provide anticipated VTOL-like performance. In the air, it would have resembled a flying saucer. Two prototypes were built as "proof-of-concept" test vehicles for a more advanced USAF fighter and also for a U.S. Army tactical combat aircraft requirement.[3] In flight testing, the Avrocar proved to have unresolved thrust and stability problems that limited it to a degraded, low-performance flight envelope; subsequently, the project was cancelled in 1961.

Design and development

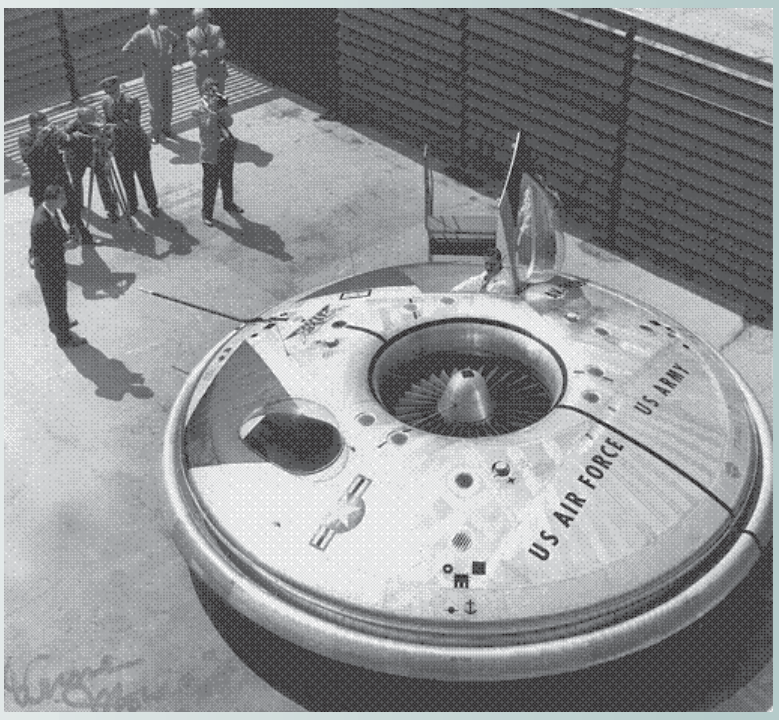
The Avrocar was the ultimate result of a series of "blue sky" research projects by designer "Jack" Frost, who had joined Avro Canada in June 1947 after working for several British firms.[4] He had been with de Havilland from 1942 and had worked on the de Havilland Hornet, de Havilland Vampire jet fighter and the de Havilland Swallow aircraft, where he had been the chief designer on the supersonic research project.[5] At Avro Canada, he had worked on the Avro CF-100 before creating a research team known as the "Special Projects Group" (more commonly known as SPG). Frost first surrounded himself with a collection of like-minded "maverick" engineers, then arranged for a work site. Initially ensconced in the "Penthouse" (the derisive company nickname for the executive wing) of the Administration Building, the SPG was subsequently relocated to a Second World War-era structure across from the company head-quarters, the Schaeffer Building, that was secured with security guards, locked doors and special pass cards. At times, the SPG also operated out of the Experimental Hangar where it shared space with other esoteric Avro project teams.

At the time, Frost was particularly interested in jet engine design and ways to improve the efficiency of the compres-sor without sacrificing the simplicity of the turbine engine. He found Frank Whittle's "reverse flow" design too complex and was interested in ways to "clean up" the layout. This led him to design a new type of engine layout with the flame cans lying directly outside the outer rim of the centrifugal compressor, pointed outwards like the spokes on a wheel. Power for the compressor was drawn from a new type of turbine similar to a centrifugal fan, as opposed to the more typical propeller-like turbine, driving the compressor using gearing rather than a shaft. The resulting engine had no conventional thrust axis, and was arranged in the form of a large disk, which he referred to as a "pancake engine."[6] The jet thrust exited from around the entire rim of the engine, and this presented problems trying to adapt the design to a typical aircraft.


LOOK
A blueprint for flying saucers
is this the real FLYING SAUCER ?
DESPITE HUNDREDS OF "eyewitness" accounts of flying saucers, none has been captured and no government has come forward to take credit (or blame) for their reported aerial shenanigans. So, barring the possibility that the saucers are from other planets, it seems reasonable to conclude that "there ain't no such animal."
But persistent and fairly credible rumors persist that a Canadian aircraft manufacturer, A.V. ROE, CANADA LTD. has had a saucer design under development for two years. The A. V. ROE people maintain a confusing silence about the whole thing. They can't deny that the project has been abandoned because they never announced that it had begun.

Project Y

At the same time, the aircraft industry as a whole was becoming increasingly interested in VTOL aircraft. It was expected that any future European war would start with a nuclear exchange that would destroy most airbases, so aircraft would need to operate from limited airbases, roads or even unprepared fields. Considerable research effort was put into various solutions to securing a second-strike capability. Some of these solutions included rocket-launched aircraft like the zero-length launch concept, while many companies started work on VTOL aircraft as a more appropriate long-term solution.[7]



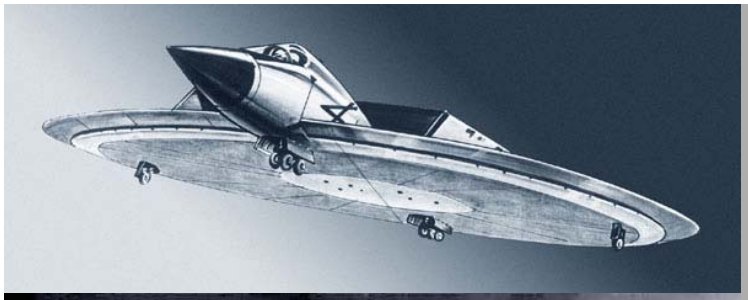
Frost felt the excellent performance of his new engine would be a natural fit for a VTOL aircraft due to its high expected power-to-weight ratio. The problem was how to use the annular thrust to drive the aircraft forward, as well as the problem of fitting the very large engine into a suitable airframe. Frost suggested using a series of vents to redirect the thrust flowing out of the "front" of the engine towards the rear, although it was well known that long channeling leads to a loss of thrust. In order to keep the "piping" as short possible, the design ported the thrust out along the leading edge of what was essentially a very large delta wing. As the engine was disk-shaped, the triangular shape was "pushed out" near the front, producing a planform shaped roughly like a spade.[8] For this reason the design was also referred to as the "Avro Ace," a likely reference to the Ace of Spades. The compressor inlet was located at the middle of the engine, so the engine air intakes were located just to the front of the centre on the top and bottom of the aircraft. The cockpit was positioned over the main bearing, behind the intakes. A "spine" on the top and bottom ran from the cockpit area to the rear edge of the aircraft. Several other versions of the basic layout were also studied, including the "Omega" which was more disk-like as it cut away the rear portions of the delta wing as well.

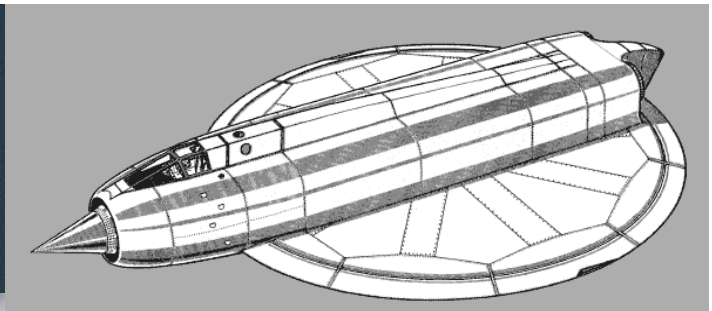
For VTOL operations the aircraft was expected to sit pointed up, supported by long landing legs that extended out of the spine. Landing would be accomplished at a very high angle, making visibility during the approach very difficult. A number of other VTOL experiments of the era attempted various solutions to this problem, including rotating pilots seats and cockpits, but none proved very effective. Another problem with various VTOL experiments was that stability in a hover was difficult to arrange, although not entirely unexpected. A solution to this problem would require the thrust to be directed downward from a larger area, as it is in a helicopter, where the lift is supplied over the entire area of the rotor disk.[9] Most designers turned to bleeding off air from the engine's compressor, and directing that through pipes arranged around the aircraft. Frost's engine design used such a large number of nozzles that such an arrangement would not be to easy to build.

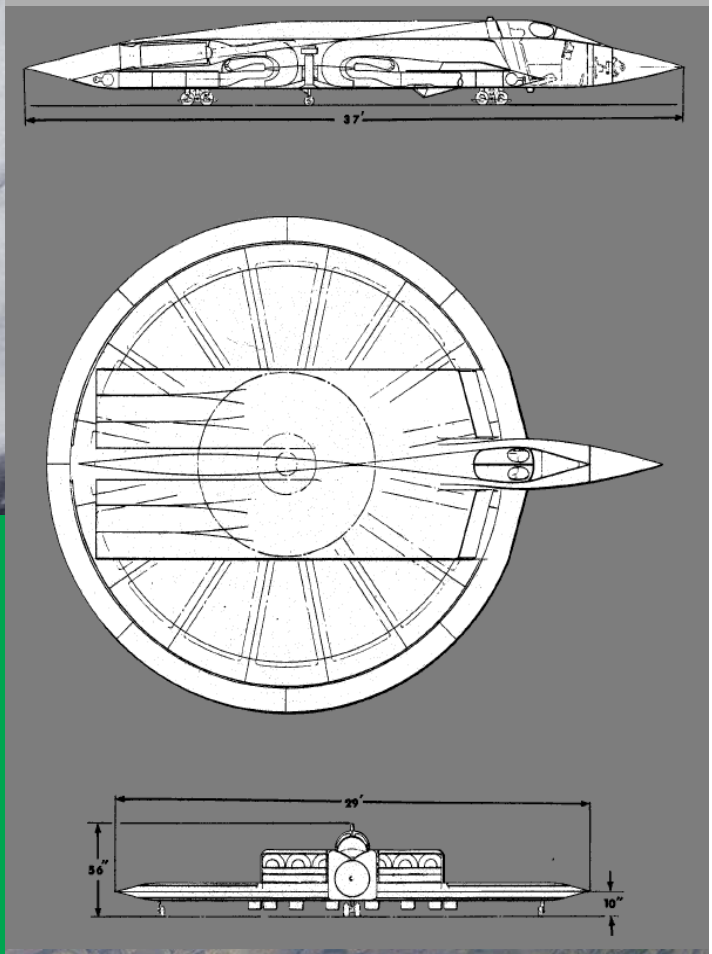
In 1952, the design was advanced enough that the Canadian Defense Research Board funded the effort with a $400,000 contract. By 1953, a wooden mock-up of Project Y was completed, of which only images remain. It appears the project was considered too costly within the military establishment, which was at the time involved in several extremely expensive air defense projects. On 11 February 1953, a story on the project was leaked to the Toronto Star along with images of the Omega design, apparently in order to gain further funding (a strategy widely employed in the U.S. at the time, known as policy by press release). Five days later, the Minister for Defense Production informed the House of Commons that Avro was indeed working on a "mock-up model" of a flying saucer, capable of flying at 1,500 miles per hour (2,400 km/h) and climbing vertically. Nevertheless, further funding was not forthcoming.

Project Y-2: the "flat-riser"

While Project Y continued, Frost had meanwhile become interested in the Coanda(effect, where fluid flows will





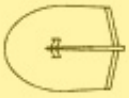
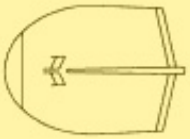
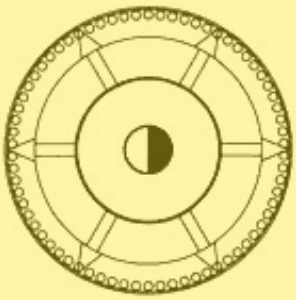


Abbreviated Development Plan, (U)
AVRO Vertical Take-Off Aircraft, Weapon System 606A
USAF Contract # AF33 (600) - 39722
26 June 1959,
AVRO Aircraft Ltd, Malton, Ontario, Canada

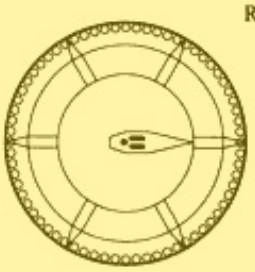
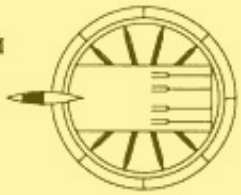
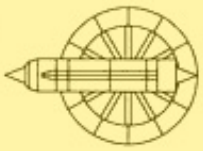
(NOTE: Although the 1958-59 re-direction of funds from this contract to help support the subsonic AVROCAR (USAF/Army Contract # AF33 (600) - 37496 development was detrimental, it should have nonetheless returned on-track by 3rd quarter 1960.)

This program called for development and manufacture of a prototype weapon system resulting in first flight of a vehicle in the 2nd Qtr of 1964. the Category I and II flight testing should have been completed by late 1965. The Contractor's Estimate for the prototype program was about 50 Million, and was to have provided 3 Supersonic Disc aircraft.

AVRO CANADA VTOL AIRCRAFT DESIGNS

		ROTORS:	CONTROL TYPE:	ENGINE TYPE:	DIAMETER/SPAN:	WEIGHT:
PRE-Y "PANCAKE ENGINE" DESIGN		1	GYROSCOPIC	EXPERIMENTAL	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
PROJECT-Y (Y-1) "AVRO ACE" SPADE SHAPE 1 CREW 2,400 kph. (1,500 mph.) AT (100,000 ft.)		1	GYROSCOPIC	EXPERIMENTAL	7.62 m. (25 ft.)	6804 kg. (15,000 lb.)
PROJECT-Y MILITARY VERSION 2 CREW		1	GYROSCOPIC	EXPERIMENTAL	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
PROJECT-Y2 SUBSONIC VERSION 1 CREW		1	GYROSCOPIC	EXPERIMENTAL	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
PROJECT-Y2 SUPERSONIC VERSION 1 CREW MACH 2		1	GYROSCOPIC	AS VIPER (8)	10 m. (33 ft.)	9702 kg. (20,000 lb.)
PROJECT-Y2 TEST AIRCRAFT 1 CREW MACH .94		1	GYROSCOPIC	AS VIPER (3)	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
PROJECT-1794 1 CREW MACH 4 AT (100,000 FT.)		1	PNEUMATIC DAMPED (ARTIFICIALLY)	AS VIPER (6) R.R. RB-108 (4)	10.75 m. (35.3 FT.)	12,383 KG. (27,300 LB.)
PROJECT-1794 TEST AIRCRAFT 1 CREW		1	PNEUMATIC DAMPED (ARTIFICIALLY)	AS VIPER (8)	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN

AVRO CANADA VTOL AIRCRAFT DESIGNS

		ROTORS:	CONTROL TYPE:	ENGINE TYPE:	DIAMETER/SPAN:	WEIGHT:
PROJECT-PV 704 2 CREW MACH 1.74 AT 25,900 m. (85,000 ft.)		2	PNUEMATIC DAMPED (ARTIFICIALLY)	ORPHEUS (6) SOAR (20) SOAR (50) RB108 (4)	18.6m (61 ft.) 10.76m. (35.3 ft.) UNKNOWN UNKNOWN	(112,000 lb.) (26,000 lb.) UNKNOWN UNKNOWN
PROJECT-PV 704 ALTERNATE VERSION 2 CREW MACH 1.74 AT (85,000 ft.)		2	PNUEMATIC DAMPED (ARTIFICIALLY)	AS VIPER (6)	UNKNOWN	UNKNOWN
WEAPON SYSTEM 606 A FIRST VERSION 2 CREW MACH 3 AT (65,000 ft.)		1	UNKNOWN	AS VIPER (6)	8.84 m. (29 ft.)	8839 kg. (20,000 lb.)
WEAPON SYSTEM 606 A CONFIG. A 1 CREW MACH 2.2		1	UNKNOWN	PW J58 (JT11-B2-58) (2)	UNKNOWN	29,480 kg. (65,500 lb.)
AVROCAR VZ-9-AV ORIGINAL VERSION 2 CREW (362 mph.)		1	MECHANICAL	J69 T9 (3)	5.486 m. (18 ft.)	2,495 kg. (5,500 lb.)
VERSION WITH TAIL 2 CREW (480 mph.)		1	MECHANICAL	GE J85 (2)	6.1 m. (20 ft.)	4,400 kg. (9,700 lb.)
VERSION WITH WING EXTENSION WITH WINGLETS 2 CREW		1	MECHANICAL	GE J85 (2)	7.47 m. (24.5 ft.)	4,400 kg. (9,700 lb.)

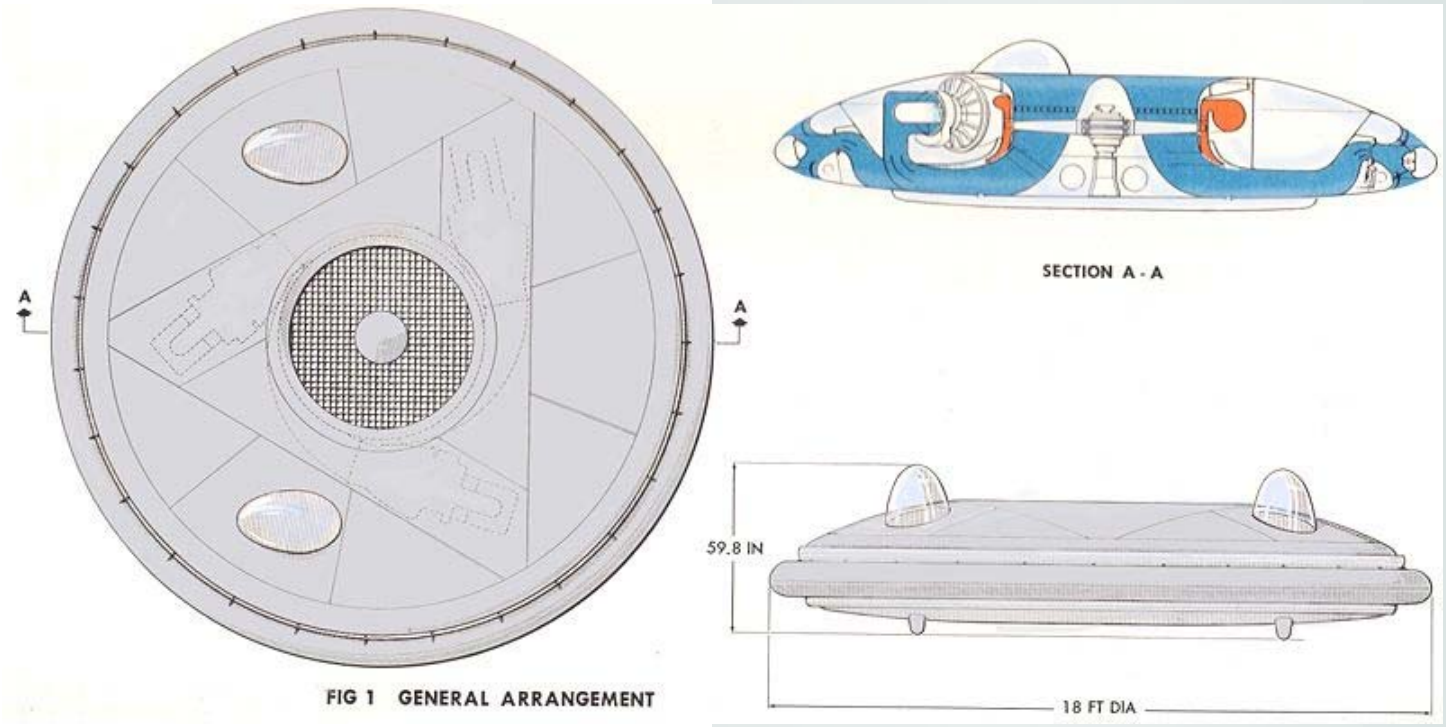


FIG 1 GENERAL ARRANGEMENT

Specifications (VZ-9-AV)
Image:Aero-stub img.svgThis aircraft article is missing some (or all) of its specifications. If you have a source, you can help Wikipedia by adding them.

Based on: Avrocar: Canada's Flying Saucer...[44] and The World's Worst Aircraft: From Pioneering Failures to Multimillion Dollar Disasters[45]

* **Crew: 1**
* **Capacity: 1 observer/engineer**
* **Diameter: 18 ft (5.486 m)**
* **Height: 3 ft 6 in (1.1 m)**
* **Wing area: 254 ft (77.4 m)**
* **Empty weight: 3,000 lb (1,360 kg)**
* **Maximum takeoff weight: 5,560 lb (2,563 kg)**
* **Powerplant(Lift/Forward flight): Turbomeca Marboré | Continental J69-T-9**
* **Number of turbojets: 3**
* **Power (each): 660 lb (2.93 kN)**
* **Maximum speed (estimated): 300 mph (482 km/h)**
* **Maximum speed (actual): 35 mph (56 km/h)**
* **Maximum range (estimated): 995 mi (1,600 km)**
* **Maximum range (actual): 79 mi (127 km)**
* **Ceiling (estimated): 10,000 ft (3048 m)**
* **Ceiling (actual): 3 ft (1 m)**

follow strongly convex shapes, something that might be unexpected at first glance. Frost felt the effect could be used with his engine design to produce a more practical VTOL aircraft, the exhaust flowing outward over the upper surface of the aircraft and then being directed downward over a flap-like arrangement. This would produce a lift force around the entire edge of the aircraft, allowing it to land "flat". He produced a number of small experimental designs using compressed air in place of an engine in order to select a suitable planform shape, and eventually decided that a disk was the best solution.[10]

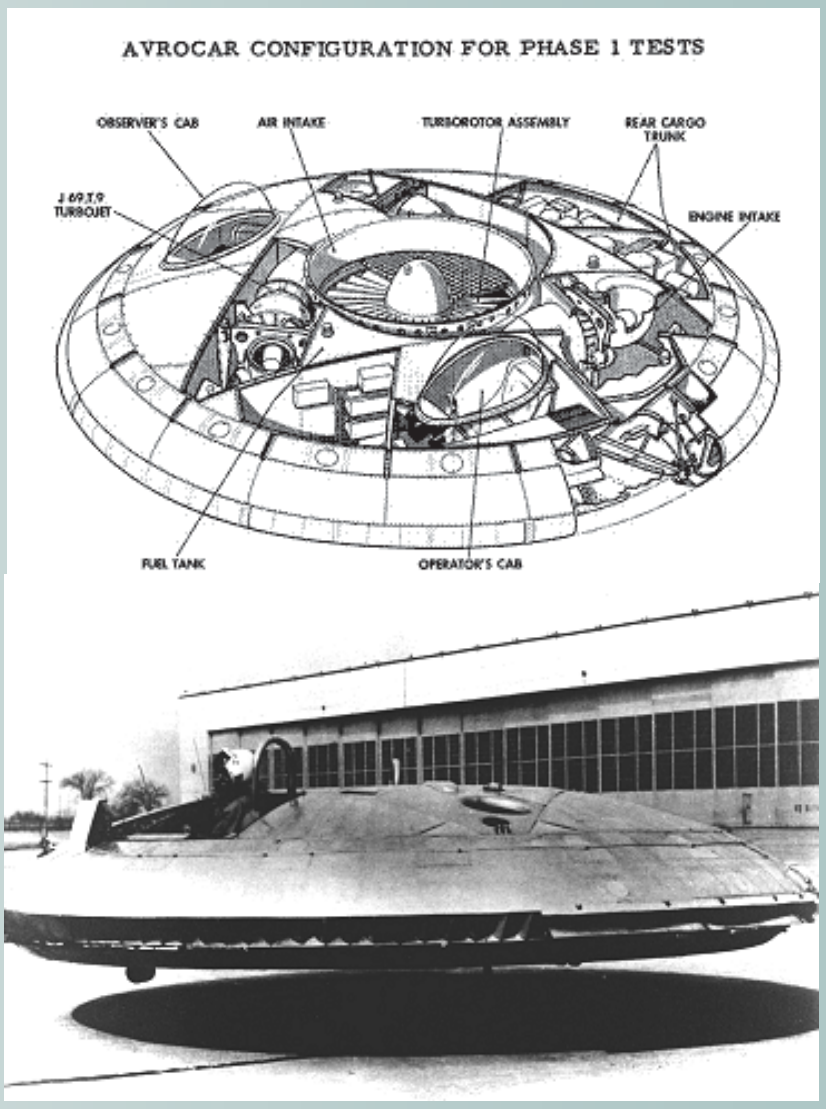
As he continued these experiments, he found that the same thrust-direction system he intended for VTOL operations worked just as well for forward flight. In this case the disk shape was not of itself a good lifting surface, as it was neutral in terms of lift direction – that is, it would fly sideways as readily as it would fly forward. However, by modifying the airflow with the application of a small amount of jet thrust, the overall airflow over the craft could be dramatically altered, creating a sort of "virtual airfoil" of any needed configuration. For instance, by directing even a small amount of jet thrust down, a large mass of air would be pulled over the upper surface of the wing and dramatically augment the flow over the wing, creating lift.[11]

An additional benefit was that the wing shaping itself would be used primarily for supersonic lift, the subsonic regime

being left to the "shaping" effects of the jet flow. This meant that the problems with shifting center of pressure that was a serious concern for contemporary designs might be eliminated.

U.S. Involvement: Project 1794/WS 606A

n late 1953, a group of U.S. defence experts visited Avro Canada to view the new CF-100 fighter jet.[12] Somewhere along the way, Frost co-opted the tour and rerouted it to the Special Projects area where he proceeded to show off the Project Y mock-up and models and drawings (some never before seen by senior company officials) for a completely circular disk-shaped aircraft known as "Project Y-2." The USAF agreed to take over funding for Frost's Special Projects Group, and a contract for $US 750,000 followed in 1955. By 1956, Avro management was interested enough to commit $2.5 million to build a "private venture" prototype. In March 1957, the Air Force added additional funding, and the aircraft became Weapons System 606A.



A wide variety of designs were studied for a VTOL fighter aircraft,[13] all revolved around the disk shape leading to the Project 1794 involving a supersonic large disk fighter aircraft. The concept proceeded to wind tunnel testing with a variety of scale models. It featured a raised section in the middle over the engine, the intake covered with a series of louvers that would be closed in forward flight. Frost's performance estimates for the concept were for a potential of Mach 3.5 at 100,000 ft (30,000 m) altitudes.

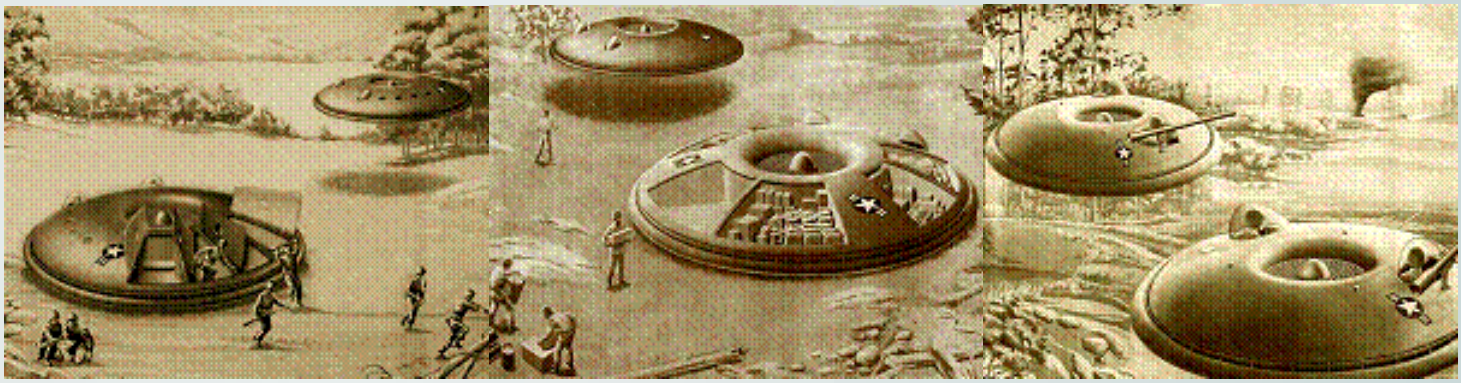
There was some debate about the concept within the USAF, as many groups were attempting to gain funding for their own pet projects, like nuclear powered bombers.[14] In a repeat of the earlier Toronto Star release, in 1955 an extensive article appeared in Look Magazine that, among other claims, speculated that current UFO sightings were Soviet-built saucers. The article went on to describe such an aircraft with diagrams that were clearly influenced by the Avro design.[15]

A new impeller-driven engine design was proposed as Avro PV-704 (PV stood for Private Venture), powered by six Armstrong Siddeley Viper jet engines blowing across the outer rim of a central rotor. The PV-704 was a "stop-gap" design built into a bunker-like building behind the Avro Experimental Test facility. It was intended to test various Project 1794 concepts and provide the USAF with test data to show the viability of the concept. The original plan to initially test the "Viper Engine Rig" was to have continued into "free flight" testing. Unfortunately, testing was anything but smooth; the test model suffered from hazardous oil leaks, resulting in three fires.[16] It eventually got to the point that staff were afraid of the machine, even when safely ensconced in a booth constructed of bullet-proof glass and quarter-inch-thick steel. A final, disastrous and nearly lethal engine test in 1956 which involved a Viper jet engine "running wild" convinced Frost that a less dangerous test vehicle was necessary.

Genesis of the Avrocar

To gather flight data on the basic concept while the engine development continued, in 1958 Frost proposed building a smaller "proof-of-concept" test vehicle he called the Avrocar. By this point, the US Army was involved in a wide variety of experiments on smaller VTOL aircraft that would act as a "flying Jeep,"[17] and they became interested in Avro's concept as well.[18] Frost pitched his smaller design both as a prototype of a vehicle suitable for the Army's needs, as well as an aerodynamic testbed for the WS-606. Initial performance requirements for the Avrocar were a ten-minute hover capability in ground effect and 25-mile (40 km) range with a 1,000 lb (450 kg) payload.

The new plan appeared to make everybody happy, and a $2 million joint-services contract[19] managed by the Air Force was awarded to Avro to build and test two Avrocars, which the Army referred to as the VZ-9-AV (with AV standing for "Avro," an unusual departure from normal US Army nomenclature[20]), the latest in a series of "VZ" aircraft. Army interest in the Avrocar program was apparently very high. Bernard Lindenbaum recalls a trip to Washington in the late 1950s to request additional funding for a study on helicopter drag reduction. Although the funding was approved, he overheard an Army General remark that the Huey would be the last helicopter the Army would buy since the helicopter would be replaced by the Avrocar.[18]



Additional Air Force funding of approximately $700,000 (unexpended from the 606A program) was also moved to the Avrocar project. In March 1959, an additional $1.77 million contract was received for a second prototype. At rollout, projected performance was far in excess of the requirement, with a 225 knots (417 km/h) maximum speed, 10,000 feet (3,000 m) ceiling, 130-mile (209 km) range with 1,000 lb (450 kg) payload, and hover out of ground effect with 2,428 lb (1,101 kg) payload. Maximum takeoff weight with transition to forward flight out of ground effect was calculated to be 5,650 lb (2,560 kg), maximum weight with a transition in ground effect (GETOL) was 6,970 lb (3,160 kg).[18]

Just as the first working test models were being manufactured, disaster struck. The Canadian government cancelled the Avro CF-105 Arrow program on "Black Friday," 20 February 1959. The ensuing result was the lay-off of almost all Avro Canada employees, including those with the Special Projects Group. However, three days following the announcement of the Arrow cancellation, many of the Special Projects employees were rehired. But it wasn't quite business as usual. The team now included people from the CF-100 and CF-105 teams and the Special Projects Group was moved into the main building, which was nearly empty. As well, company "brass" became more involved in the group's operations.[21]

The USAF Project Office devoted to the Avro projects, recommended that the WS-606A and all related work (including the Avrocar) be cancelled. A "stop/go"[22] work order came down and Frost was forced once more to try and rescue the project. In an elaborate effort, Frost made a resounding case for continuation of US military funding. Late in May 1959, the USAF authorized Avro to continue the "flying saucer" programs.

Technical description

The Avrocar was a disk-shaped aircraft with the same basic shape as a frisbee, the upper surface of the disk being fairly curved, and the bottom much less so. The disk was 18 feet (5 m) in diameter and 3.5 feet (1.1 m) thick. The main structural truss was a large equilateral triangle, to which the various components were attached. The 124-blade "turborotor" sat in the center of the triangle, with most of the rotor's thrust directed straight down through an opening

in the lower surface, but some was bled off to power the control system running along the outer rim of the disk.[24] Power for the rotor was provided by three Continental J69-T-9 jet engines attached to the truss. Each engine had its own fuel and oil tanks and other support systems, although it was expected these would be interconnected in future models. The majority of the airframe was made of aluminum with an empty weight of 3,000 pounds.[25]

Pilot control was entirely through a single side-mounted control stick. Pitch and roll were controlled through conventional fore-aft and side-to-side motions, while yaw could be controlled by twisting the stick. No mechanical linkages were used, the stick instead controlled the flow of high pressure air around the craft, which either directly attached to various control surfaces, or indirectly through local cable linkages to replace controls that were intended to be cable-actuated (like throttle controls on the engines).[24]

The attitude control system consisted of a large ring situated outside of the main disk, shaped roughly like a rounded triangle with the flat surface on the "inside." Viewing the craft from the side, the control flap is almost invisible, appearing in its neutral position to blend into the profile. The pilot's controls moved the ring in relation to the rest of the craft, affecting the airflow moving outward from the center of the craft. Vertical lift could be increased by moving the entire ring down, which would produce more airflow over its upper surface, which would then bend down over this surface toward the ground. Tilting the ring resulted in asymmetric thrust for directional control.[26]

It was discovered that the craft was inherently unstable in forward flight, as the aerodynamic center of pressure was well forward of the center of gravity.[27] The Avrocar thus included a mechanical stability control system that was independent of the pilot's controls. The turborotor had a fairly large angular momentum and was intended to act as a powerful gyroscope, providing a "normal" direction of flight. Control cables attached to the base of the rotor would be pulled when the craft moved in relation to the rotor, actuating the control surfaces to counteract the motion.

The vehicle was manned by a crew of two, positioned in separate cockpits squeezed into empty areas in the airframe. In practice, only one pilot was usually on board during testing; a number of flights were made with an observer in the second cockpit. Until control problems were completely solved, the Avro test pilots acquired a "touch" for the extremely sensitive control inputs and Avro Aircraft Chief Development Test Pilot Potocki was eventually able to demonstrate a "hands-off" flight. Nonetheless, Avro test pilot Peter Cope, USAF project pilot Walter J. Hodgson and NASA Ames Chief Test Pilot Fred J. Drinkwater III, who all flew the Avrocar, considered it still a tricky vehicle to fly. Drinkwater likened a flight in it to "balancing on a beach ball."[28]

The undercarriage of the Avrocar was rudimentary with three small castoring wheels mounted on "stub" shafts; a set of skids was substituted later in testing although they were not normally fitted.[29]

Testing

The first Avrocar, #58-7055, rolled out of the Avro Malton factory in May 1959. From 9 June to 7 October 1959, it was tested in a static hover rig.[30] Unfortunately, hot gas from the exhaust was found to mix back into the intakes in hover, reducing engine thrust. In addition, the fan generated lift only from a small area of its surface, lowering overall thrust available. The ducts also proved to have higher losses than expected, and a series of modifications were not able to solve this problem to any large degree. These problems reduced maximum lift at higher altitudes out of the ground effect to 3,150 lb (1,430 kg), less than the empty weight of the aircraft at 4,285 lb (1,944 kg). This meant the aircraft would be incapable of hovering out of the ground effect. Following these tests, the vehicle was sent to NASA Ames for a wind tunnel testing.

The second, #59-4975, was completed August 1959. On 29 September, the first attempt to hover was made with the Avrocar tethered to the ground.[31] After the vehicle became airborne, an uncontrollable roll and pitch-coupled oscillation started that forced each of the three wheels into the ground in turn. The pilot, W.D. "Spud" Potocki, immediately shut down all engines. Changes were made to the stability system to provide more control authority, while new tethers were investigated to improve the ability to control these sorts of problems.[32] As testing continued it became clear that the problem was inherent to the design, and the engineers started referring to the effect as "hubcapping," so-named as it appeared similar to a hubcap spun on the ground.[33]

Investigations into the effect revealed what was causing the problem. While in the ground effect, the high-pressure air under the craft was trapped, filling the entire area and thus providing a stable base. When the craft rose out of the ground effect, the air formed itself into a single narrow column, described by Frost as "tree trunking". At intermediate altitudes the craft would momentarily transition from one regime to the other, during which time one side of the

Avro VZ-9-AV Avrocar at the Paul E. Garber Preservation, Restoration and Storage Facility, National Air and Space Museum c.1984

vehicle would be entirely supported while the support was disappearing under the other. This led to a strong pitching motion towards the unsupported side. As soon as this occurred that side would approach the ground and re-establish the supporting air, while the other side would then be raised above this limit. This process would repeat itself, with the craft rolling from side to side. Modifications were carried out in order to try to solve the problem. Eventually a series of 52 holes were drilled in the bottom of the vehicle, located radially three feet from the center. These were to provide a central jet to stabilize the ground cushion.[34]

With these modifications complete and apparently working, the first completely free flight occurred on 12 November 1959. This test proved the nozzle control system unacceptable. The spoilers were intended to direct the air out over the top or bottom of the annular flap, out the bottom only during hover, but over the top and bottom during forward flight. The idea was that when the flap was positioned in order to provide control, the lift would be lowered on one side and raised on the other. Lift was indeed lowered on one side, but sadly the lift did not improve on the other, so every control input resulted in a loss of altitude. After five flights, testing was temporarily halted on 5 December 1959, by which time the Avrocar had logged 18.5 hours of test time in total.

A complete new design was installed over the winter. The original spoilers were removed and replaced by a single ring below the annular flap. The ring shifted in relation to the craft under control input, "sealing off" the gap on one side while opening it on the other. Tests continued in January 1960, and appeared to work much better. However, while the new control system improved the hovering qualities, the craft now became unstable at higher speeds above 30 knots (56 km/h). The first Avrocar at Ames was similarly modified, and, in April 1960, it was tested in their 40 x 80 ft (24 m) wind tunnel.[35] The problem became clear; the ring blocked so much of the overall engine thrust that the overall power was greatly reduced. As the craft sped up, the airflow on the underside reduced the recirculation, reducing the lift due to airflow over the upper surface. This was somewhat unexpected; recirculation had been considered a "bad thing" due to the loss of engine thrust, and its positive effects on lift do not appear to have been appreciated. In the end, in order to maintain lift at higher forward speeds the craft had to be pitched to the end of its control capability.

Avro was convinced that the concept was still workable, and proposed a new program for major rework of the propulsion and control system. Instead of the single annular triangular flap and spoilers, or the later ring control, the new system included two separate control systems for hover and forward flight, combined into a single nozzle. For hover, a series of "transition doors" were opened into the nozzles, blocking them off and re-directing the flow downward under the aircraft. Control during this regime was provided by moving the outer portion of the flap to "focus" the flow. At higher speeds, the doors were closed, allowing the air to flow out from the edge of the aircraft, where a series of simple flap-like controls were located. The new control system covered the rear 3/4's of the aircraft's outer circumference; the front section featured the hovering controls only.[36]

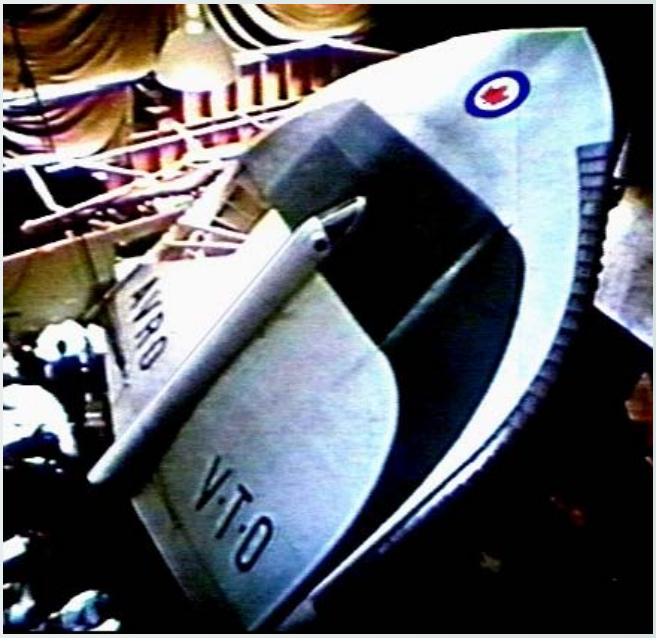
Modifications were completed on the Ames model and testing resumed in April 1961. The new design demonstrated much better control in hover and considerably improved lift. The vehicle was now able to travel at up to 100 knots (190 km/h), a great improvement over the 30 knots (56 km/h) previously reached. However it remained unstable in pitch, and exhibited a strong nose-up trim. NASA engineers attempted to modify this with a T-tail, but this proved to sit within the airflow of the turborotor and it simply didn't help the situation. Frost's team considered two new designs, one with a large vertical tail and one with a wing with tip mounted verticals —"winglets." Both designs used two 2,700 lbf (12 kN) thrust General Electric J85 turbojets and increased the turborotor diameter from five to six ft.[37]

On 9 June 1961, a second USAF/NASA flight evaluation of the Avrocar was conducted on the similarly-modified

second prototype at the Avro facility. During these tests, the vehicle reached a maximum speed of 20 knots (37 km/h) and showed the ability to traverse a ditch six feet across and 18 inches (460 mm) deep. Flight above the critical altitude proved dangerous if not nearly impossible due to inherent instability.[38] The flight test report further identified a range of control problems.[39]

Cancellation

Before modifications could be achieved, funding ran out in March 1961. Frost's proposals for a modified design were not accepted, and the Avrocar and related WS-606A supersonic VTOL programs were officially cancelled in December 1961 by the U.S. military. Avro company executives encouraged additional VTOL research projects, exploring new configurations married to a disk platform[38] These needs were filled by the Hawker Siddeley Harrier, but in more general terms, interest in VTOL faded as it became widely believed a nuclear first strike would not be used at the start of a European war.



Rare colour image from an Avro Aircraft company film showing the Project Y mock-up in the Experimental Flight Hangar c. 1954. The edge of the wing closest to the camera shows the scalloped nozzles used to redirect the jet thrust rearward. The cockpit is just visible at the front of the "spine" running along the top of the aircraft.

The second Avrocar had logged about 75 flight hours at the end of the flight testing. Judged by its performance, the Avrocar was an abject failure: it couldn't lift itself safely more than a few feet off the ground, and its bulbous design limiting high-speed performance accompanied by unbearable heat and screaming exhaust noise, made it impractical for the military. Although considered a technical failure, its design would be prophetic: it was a rubber skirt shy of being one of the world's first hovercraft, the Saunders Roe SR.N1 also taking off in 1959. Nevertheless, company designer, John Frost applied for a number of patents in Canada, the UK and the US that established the pivotal role that the Avrocar and related Avro experimental vehicles, made in the VTOL world.[40][41]

Latest developments

The Avro VZ-9-AV Avrocar was a "dead end" in VTOL design, according to Russell Lee, curator at the National Air and Space Museum, yet its technological innovations have intrigued other designers. One of the design elements it embodied, the use of ducted fans led to other experimental programs. Dr. Paul Moller, a Canadian expatriate who had worked at Avro Canada as a young engineer, based an initial series of experimental VTOL vehicles on "saucer" technology utilizing the buried ducted fan à la-Avrocar. The XM-2, the first of the series looked remarkably like a miniature flying saucer. After successful tether tests, the saucer designs also at one time publicized as "discojet" were abandoned and their latest project, the Moller Skycar, has a flying-car appearance.[42]

The Avrocar story did not end with the termination of the program. Only two Avrocars were ever produced and because the U.S. military had paid for the work, they reverted to U.S. ownership at the end of the program. The second example, S/N 59-4975, utilized for "flight" testing, returned to Canada briefly for display in Montreal at the Man and His World Exhibition (1968); after a lengthy period of outdoor display, it is now under restoration at the U.S. Army Transportation Museum in Fort Eustis, Virginia.[43]

The first Avrocar, S/N 58-7055 (marked AV-7055), after tethered testing, became the "wind tunnel" test model at NASA Ames, where it remained in storage from 1961 until 1966, when it was donated to the National Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C. Originally scheduled for display at the newly constructed Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, located at the Washington Dulles International Airport, the Avrocar has instead been loaned to the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton, Ohio, arriving in November, 2007. After restoration, it was put on display in June 2008.

A full-scale replica of the Avrocar was prepared for the 2002 production, Avrocar: Saucer Secrets from the Past. It now resides as an exhibit at the Western Canada Aviation Museum, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

References

Notes

1. ^ Winchester 2005, p. 68.
2. ^ Yenne 2003), pp. 281–283.
3. ^ Milberry 1979, p. 137.
4. ^ Milberry 1981, p. 15.
5. ^ Milberry 1981, p. 19.
6. ^ Avrocar... 2002
7. ^ Zuuring 1999, p. 221.
8. ^ Avrocar... 2002
9. ^ Milberry 1979, p. 137.
10. ^ Campagna 1998, p. 61.
11. ^ Campagna 1998, p. 62–63.
12. ^ Whitcomb 2002, p. 58.
13. ^ Milberry 1979, p. 137.
14. ^ Zuuring 1999, p. 220.
15. ^ Look Article from 1955
16. ^ John Frost
17. ^ Harding 1999, p. 73.
18. ^ a b c d Lindenbaum, Bernard and Blake, William. The VZ-9 Avrocar. THE VZ-9 AVROCAR. Retrieved: 17 February 2007. Note: Much of the discussion of the control systems and stability problems are taken from this source.
19. ^ Harding 1999, p. 74.
20. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 65.
21. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 70–71.
22. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 71.
23. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 71–72.
24. ^ a b Rogers 1989, p. 84.
25. ^ Campagna 1998, p. 68.
26. ^ Campagna 1998, p. 69–70.
27. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 85–87.
28. ^ Avrocar: Saucer Secrets from the Past 2002
29. ^ Winchester 2005, p. 69.
30. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 74.
31. ^ Taylor 1999, p. 78.
32. ^ Milberry 1979, p. 137.
33. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 79.
34. ^ Rogers 1989. p. 85.
35. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 76.
36. ^ Winchester 2005, p. 69.
37. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 82. Note: Frost's redesigned Avrocar was only a "paper" project.
38. ^ a b Winchester 2005, p. 68.
39. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 79. Quote: "...they focused on the deteriorated engine and turborotor performance and lack of controllability over the speed range of the Avrocar..."
40. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 85-87. Note: A modern reappraisal of the Avrocar focused on aerodynamic problems and their resolution.
41. ^ Milberry 1981, p. 19.
42. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 92, 93.
43. ^ Harding 1999, p. 74.
44. ^ Zuk 2001, p. 69.
45. ^ Winchester 2005, p. 104.

Bibliography

* Avrocar: Saucer Secrets from the Past. Winnipeg: MidCanada Entertainment, 2002. <http://www.avrocar.com/>

* Campagna, Palmiro. The UFO Files: The Canadian Connection Exposed. Toronto: Stoddart Publishing, 1998. ISBN 0-7737-5973-5.

* Harding, Steve. "Canadian Connection: US Army Aviation's Penchant for Canadian Types." Air Enthusiast, Issue 84, November-December, 1999.

* Milberry, Larry. Aviation in Canada. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson Limited, 1979. ISBN 0-07-082778-8.

* Milberry, Larry. The Avro CF-100. Toronto: CANAV Books, 1981. ISBN 0-9690703-0-6.

* Rogers, Mike. VTOL: Military Research Aircraft. New York: Orion Books, 1989. ISBN 0-517-57684-8.

* Rose, Bill and Buttler, Tony. Flying Saucer Aircraft (Secret Projects). Leicester, UK: Midland Publishing, 2006. ISBN 1-85780-233-0.

* Taylor, Michael. The World's Strangest Aircraft. London: Grange Books plc, 1999. ISBN 1-85627-869-7.

* Winchester, Jim. The World's Worst Aircraft: From Pioneering Failures to Multimillion Dollar Disasters. London: Amber Books Ltd., 2005. ISBN 1-904687-34-2.

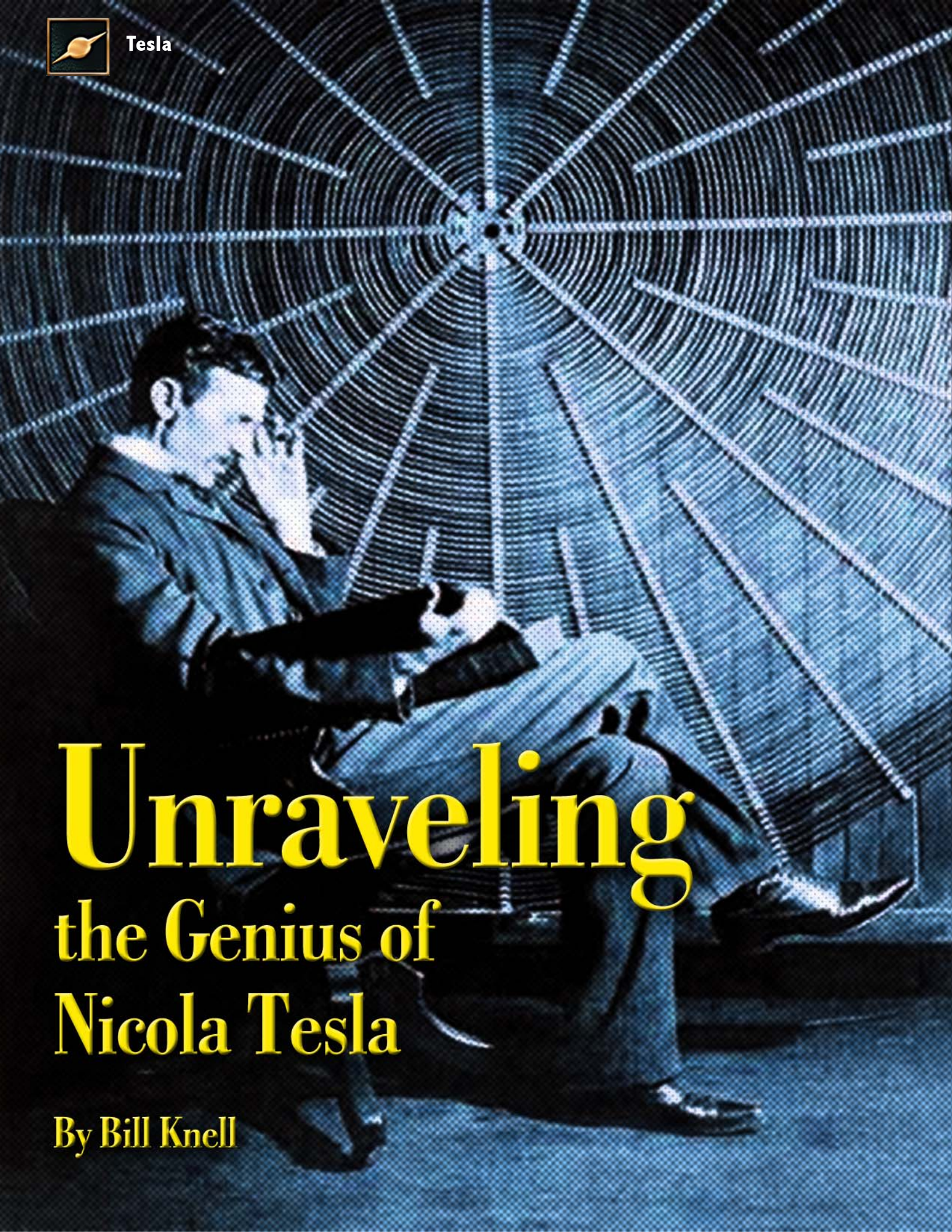
* Whitcomb, Randall. Avro Aircraft and Cold War Aviation. St. Catharine's, Ontario: Vanwell, 2002. ISBN 1-55125-082-9.

* Yenne, William. “From Focke-Wulf to Avrocar.” Secret Weapons of World War II: The Techno-Military Breakthroughs That Changed History. New York: Berkley Books, 2003. ISBN 0-42518-992-9.

* Zuk, Bill. Avrocar: Canada's Flying Saucer... Erin, Ontario: Boston Mills Press, 2001. ISBN 1-55046-359-4.

* Zuk, Bill. The Avrocar Story. Winnipeg: MidCanada Entertainment, 2002. Avrocar Story

* Zuuring, Peter. The Arrow Scrapbook. Kingston, Ontario: Arrow Alliance Press, 1999. ISBN 1-55056-690-3.


Tesla
Unraveling
the Genius of
Nicola Tesla
By Bill Knell

Nicola Tesla is as much man as he is legend. Born into a Serbian family during 1856 in what used to be the Austrian Empire, Tesla became a modern Merlin by inventing all sorts of amazing contraptions, providing the electrical power necessary for an economy increasingly dependent on it and creating an electronic revolution based on his theories and ideas. Considered the father of Alternating Current (AC power), the means to distribute it and the AC motor, he also demonstrated the first use of wireless communication in 1894 and made the impossible possible.

Tesla is credited with taking theoretical ideas and making them into practical projects and useful inventions. Many consider his work to be the birthing table of remote control, computers, robotics, radar and other modern marvels. Tesla became the father of most twentieth century technology. Apart from his own genius, Tesla had the good sense and intelligence to build on the work of others. While attending the Charles-Ferdinand University in Prague during 1880, he was heavily influenced by the work of Ernst Mach. Mach was a physicist from Austria that studied and photographed spark and ballistic shock waves.

Nicola used his time at University to read as many books about physics, engineering and related subjects as he could. Said to have a photographic memory, he didn't just memorize the books; he interpreted them to his own advantage. These interpretations came to him as sudden inspirations in the forms of flashes of light which took shape into pictures in his mind. Tesla believed that anything he could imagine or picture in his mind, he could design and build. During his later years, Tesla proposed the idea of a thought photography machine which could capture things like his own inspirational flashes on film.

A friend of Tesla was witness to one of his inspirational flashes. Tesla was walking through a Belgrade park in 1882 and talking with him when Nicola stopped dead in his tracks and was silent. His friend thought that he was having some sort of an attack, seizure or stroke and encouraged him to sit down on a nearby bench. Tesla regained his composure, but would not sit down until he walked over to a children's play area and drew plans for his AC power distribution system and motor in the sand. Committing them to memory, he later copied them on to paper.

After moving to Budapest, Hungary, Tesla worked as chief electrician to the first telephone company there and invented a phone amplifier which led to the development of the first loudspeaker. In 1882 he moved to Paris, France, to work for the Continental Edison Company. After expressing a desire to move to the United States and work for the Edison company there, Charles Batchelor wrote a letter of recommendation to Thomas Edison which stated, "I know two great men and you are one of them; the other is this young man." However, this was anything but a match made in heaven.

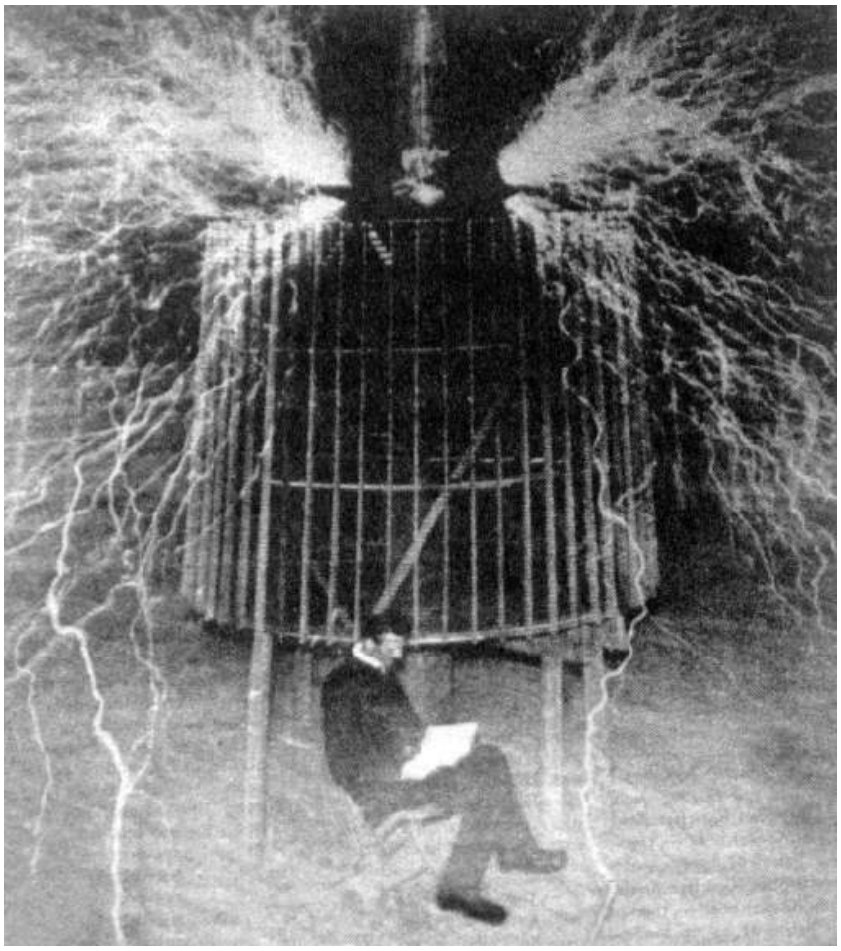
A number of his biographers claim that Tesla was offered $50,000 to redesign Thomas Edison's inefficient electric generating system. After working seven days a week and almost twenty hour days for quite some time, Edison delivered an improved system to Edison and came to claim his reward. Thomas Edison reportedly said, "Tesla, you don't understand our American humor" and refused to pay him anymore than the base wage of about eighteen dollars a week that he was receiving at the time. After asking for a raise to twenty-five dollars a week and being refused that amount, Tesla parted ways with Edison. Part of the problem was that Edison believed in Direct Current and could not accept Tesla's AC poly phase design.

Tesla dug ditches for a time to survive while he developed the brushless AC induction motor, the Tesla Coil and single node vacuum tubes which allowed the development and use of X-ray technology in the medical field. He demonstrated his induction motor to the American Institute of Electrical Engineers in 1888 and soon went to work for George Westinghouse in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where the company labs were located. Westinghouse liked his ideas about poly phase systems which allowed transmission of AC power over long distances.

In 1891, Nicola Tesla became a naturalized American Citizen and established his own laboratory in New York City. Patents for his poly phase power system were granted in 1891-1892 while he continued to work on improvements and innovations for power generation, magnetism and the invention of radio transmissions as a means of remote control. He was eventually able to generate one million volts of AC power, an amount undreamed

of at that time. But that was just the beginning. What he really wanted to do was to create a system by which generated power could be wirelessly transmitted.

The first fruits of his genius were displayed to awe struck crowds at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. With the cooperation of and financing provided by Westinghouse, Tesla illuminated the entire Chicago exposition using his AC power system and twelve 1000 horse power two-phase generators. Electrically-powered water fountains were featured throughout the fairgrounds. Tesla had his own exhibit which featured marvels like his Egg of Columbus (or Tesla Egg). It was an egg made of copper which used principles of the rotating magnetic field and an induction motor to make it stand on end. His switching disc (which created high-frequency AC power) and other devices were also on display.



Despite his successes, Tesla found himself stuck in the middle of an electrical power war between Thomas Edison and George Westinghouse. The DC verses AC dispute nearly bankrupted both parties and generated a lifetime of rivalry, revenge and retribution. As a favor and sign of support and appreciation to Westinghouse, Nicola released him from his contract in 1897. That allowed Westinghouse to forego the payment of a huge amount of royalties due Tesla for use of his patents. The conflict never slowed Nicola down. During this time he invented a spark plug for gasoline engines and laboriously researched radiation. That work lead to a better understanding of cosmic rays and, later, the development of a directed energy weapon.

Tesla had high hopes for an idea he had concerning remote-controlled weaponry which lead him to file a patent for the first wireless radio transmission system. In 1898, he demonstrated a radio-controlled submarine style boat and remote-controlled torpedo system which he tried to sell to the U.S. Military. The boat actually had an early radio signal detector and logic gates. It was his first Teleautomaton or robotic vehicle. Tesla demonstrated it at Madison Square Garden and told those that attended, "You see there the first of a race of robots, mechanical men which will do the laborious work of the human race."

Some would argue that Tesla's time in Colorado Springs, Colorado, was the best and worst of times for him. He arrived there in 1899 and told reporters he was building a laboratory to work on the wireless transmission of telegraph signals throughout the world. However, he was actually more interested in the wireless transmission of power using the earth as a conductor and wanted to use his Colorado facility to experiment on and perfect a system that could do just that. Tesla successfully transmitted wireless power to receiving devices in the area, but also managed to blackout the entire city of the Colorado Springs and set their only power generator on fire. Nicola later replaced that generator at his own expense which healed a large rift between himself and the local population.

During his time in Colorado Springs, Tesla managed to wirelessly light over 200 lamps that were twenty-five miles away from his lab. He also developed practical versions of many of his theoretical ideas to link power and radio transmissions into one transmission and receiving system. While working on all this, Nicola interpreted odd clicks that he received in numerical order as the radio transmissions of aliens from nearby worlds. Many believe it was merely the result of space noise or a misunderstanding of the new technologies he was using. Others aren't so sure. It's been sadly reported that

many prototypes of some of Tesla's greatest and most amazing inventions were lost after he closed the lab in 1900 and sold its contents to pay off debts. The lab building was eventually demolished.

After leaving Colorado Springs, Tesla managed to get a grant for $150,000.00 from notorious financier J. Pierpoint Morgan to build his famous Wardenclyffe facility on Long Island. Tesla devised an amazing wireless system to link the world through telephone and telegraph transmissions, which also had the capability to instantly transit photos, moving pictures and electronically generated text to global receiving points. Worldwide politics, government meddling, budget overruns and funding fears caused the premature shutdown of his Wardenclyffe project before it could be completed.

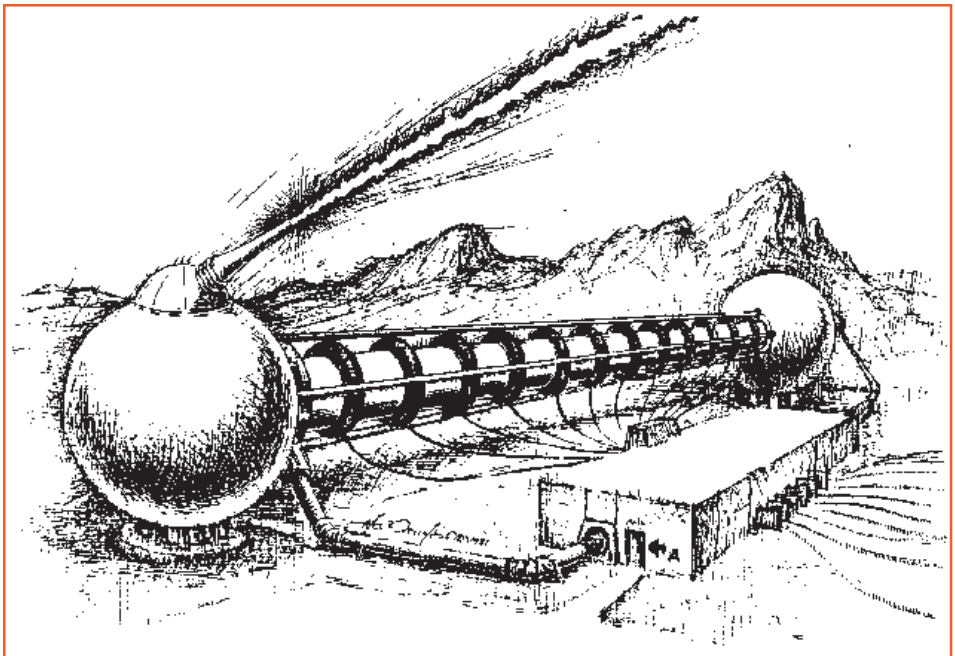
During the period of 1900 until the end of World War One in 1918, Tesla became the fall guy for blame on many fronts. His failure to file patents for some of his best inventions caused distrust among financiers and lead some in the government to believe he was signing secret agreements with foreign governments not sympathetic to American ideals and policy. In 1917, the Wardenclyffe facility was seized and destroyed by U.S. Marines sent in by the Federal Government. They believed the place was crawling with German Spies and might be used as a weapon against Americans. There was never any truth in that accusation. It's more likely that local, state and federal politicians just didn't understand what he was trying to accomplish and didn't want the responsibility of having to explain any disasters or large scale power failures his project might cause.

Tesla was a patriotic American that refused to sell inventions to foreign powers that might have given them an advantage over U.S. forces. He was also notoriously inept when it came to handling money and many of the patents he had might never have been filed at all except for the constant badgering he received from associates and colleagues that helped with the paperwork. Apart from his own lack of concern for his own financial stability, Tesla made a lifetime enemy when he crossed electrical currents with Thomas Edison. Many believe that Edison used his status as a native born American and reputation as an inventor to turn government authorities and venture capitalists against Nicola.

The first sign of enemies working behind the scenes against Tesla was an action by the U.S. Patent Office which reversed its decision to award Nicola the patent for radio. Instead, they awarded it to Guglielmo Marconi who filed his own patent papers months after Tesla. Despite the fact that Tesla's oscillator was the very basis for Marconi's patent and was well known throughout the world by that time, the U.S. Patent Office called the idea that Marconi knew about Nicola's oscillator "absurd." Nicola should have filed his patent for radio much earlier, but his lazy attitude toward paperwork cost him dearly and never allowed him to regain the patent during his lifetime. It wasn't until after his reported death in 1943 that the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Tesla's radio patent declaring him the actual inventor of radio.

After Tesla's claims that he had communicated with extraterrestrials and word spread about some of his more exotic inventions including a 'death ray' based on his work with and research of radiation, plasma energy and X-rays, reporters began to portray Nicola as a mad scientist. Comic books and cartoons followed suit by naming a villain after him. However, many in the scientific and engineering communities considered Tesla a visionary and few doubted his intellect. Able to speak at least eight languages fluently, the soft-spoken genius with a flair for scientific showmanship ingratiated himself to almost everyone that met or saw him in person.

Shortly before his death in 1931, Thomas Edison admitted that his greatest mistake was developing Direct Current, instead of using Tesla's Alternating Current ideas and means of power distribution. Tesla was less generous. After Edison died, he pointed out that Edison had a contempt for book learning that cost him dearly in terms of productivity and the time it took him to develop inventions. Tesla felt that inspiration was important, but no more so than possessing the knowledge that can only be learned by studying the work, theories and discoveries of those who came before.



Directed-energy weapon

Later in life, Tesla made remarkable claims concerning a "teleforce" weapon. The press called it a "peace ray" or death ray. In total, the components and methods included:
· An apparatus for producing manifestations of energy in free air instead of in a high vacuum as in the past. This, according to Tesla in 1934, was accomplished.
· A mechanism for generating tremendous electrical force. This, according to Tesla, was also accomplished.
· A means of intensifying and amplifying the force developed by the second mechanism.
· A new method for producing a tremendous electrical repelling force. This would be the projector, or gun, of the invention.

Tesla worked on plans for a directed-energy weapon from the early 1900s until his death. In 1937, Tesla composed a treatise entitled "*The Art of Projecting Concentrated Non-dispersive Energy through the Natural Media*" concerning charged particle beams. Tesla published the document in an attempt to expound on the technical description of a "superweapon that would put an end to all war". This treatise of the particle beam is currently in the Nikola Tesla Museum archive in Belgrade. It described an open ended vacuum tube with a gas jet seal that allowed particles to exit, a method of charging particles to millions of volts, and a method of creating and directing nondispersive particle streams (through electrostatic repulsion).

His records indicate that it was based on a narrow stream of atomic clusters of liquid mercury or tungsten accelerated via high voltage (by means akin to his magnifying transformer). Tesla gave the following description concerning the *particle gun*'s operation:

" [The nozzle would] send concentrated beams of particles through the free air, of such tremendous energy that they will bring down a fleet of 10,000 enemy airplanes at a distance of 200 miles from a defending nation's border and will cause armies to drop dead in their tracks."

The weapon could be used against ground based infantry or for antiaircraft purposes.

Tesla tried to interest the US War Department in the device. He also offered this invention to European countries. None of the governments purchased a contract to build the device. He was unable to act on his plans.

Tesla's own major flaw was inventing things that were so futuristic they were often misunderstood, ignored or feared by people that lacked the vision he possessed to appreciate them. Tesla once said, "The present is theirs; the future, for which I really work, is mine."

Nicola Tesla envisioned a future in which people communicated, exchanged information and traveled at light speed. He believed that his own amazing inventions would be the catalyst that would help bring the people of the world closer together. Generally opposed to war, most of the futuristic weapons he invented were designed as a means to prevent worldwide conflicts instead of propagating them. He imagined and spoke about energy weapons that could destroy whole fleets of ships and planes while they were still hundreds of miles away from their targets. He felt such devices would prevent the further development of war machines and weapons because the use of these things would become ineffective, rendering them obsolete.

Tesla was able to produce a laser beam and, like a few other forward thinking inventors of his time, had already begun working on a directed energy weapon by the early 1900s. Some have blamed his work in this area for everything from the sudden explosion of ships to the still unexplained Tunguska blast in Siberia. In 1937, Tesla granted an interview to a New York Times reporter to explain the invention and development of his infamous Death Ray. Nicola said that his weapon "will send concentrated beams of particles through the free air, of such tremendous energy that they will bring down a fleet of 10,000 enemy airplanes at a distance of 250 miles from the defending nation's border and will cause armies of millions to drop dead in their tracks."

The death ray may or may not exist and might have been little more than a flash

of inspiration in Nicola's mind when he described it. Many of Tesla's inventions were based on theoretical ideas and were a constant work in progress. However, this doesn't mean he did not built prototypes which worked in the laboratory. He allegedly built a small working model of an anti-gravity air ship which operated on energy transmitted to it through the air. This ship could operate inside or outside of the atmosphere and resembled a flying saucer. Nicola's ideas and inventions involving new sources of power caused shockwaves, figuratively and literally.

While working at his office located at 46 Houston Street in Manhattan, Tesla returned to an earlier interest he had in waves and resonance which was originally ignited by the work of Ernst Mach. Nicola believed this might be another source of power that had been previously ignored by those who didn't bother to look into it. As a result, he built a small device that became known as Tesla's Earthquake Machine. More an experiment that was part of his resonance research than a device, Nicola tested it in 1897. Nothing happened when he first turned it on, so he fell asleep after hours of exhaustive work. While asleep, the device began causing vibrations akin to an earthquake. It's said that if a police officer had not broken into his office and woke Tesla up, the device might have destroyed most of lower Manhattan and sank the Brooklyn Bridge.

Always thinking ahead, Nicola Tesla believed it would soon be possible to built anti-gravity, teleportation and even time travel devices. Some believe that these ideas lead to his involvement with the infamous Philadelphia Experiment. That experiment allegedly began as a project to demagnetize ships against sophisticated German Mines attracted to the magnetized metal in naval vessels. The stamping procedure that was part of the ship building process caused the magnetism which was could also be detrimental to electronic devices on board and effected the performance of new technologies like radar. Because of a need to develop devices that would use sound detection as a means to protect harbors against unauthorized submarine entry, and the need to develop cloaking technology to protect military vessels against detection by enemy radar, those two goals were added to the original project.

Physicists, mathematicians and engineers from Princeton University were allegedly brought on board to develop the technology necessary to achieve project goals which the military felt could all be worked on at the same time. Their work would begin at the Institute For Advanced Study located at Princeton University in New Jersey and conclude with testing at the nearby Philadelphia Naval Shipyard in Pennsylvania. The institute was the academic home of scientific luminaries like Albert Einstein, John Von Neumann and Robert Oppenheimer. All worked on government projects during World War II and much of their work remains classified.

Despite the availability of talent from Princeton, people like John Von Neumann who allegedly worked on the Philadelphia Experiment were much younger and less experienced than Tesla. They did not have the knowledge possessed by him when it came to exploiting and controlling powerful electromagnetic fields or understanding resonance and sound waves. It's generally believed that the development of technologies needed to accomplish the goals that were a part of the Philadelphia Experiment would not be possible at all without knowledge and abilities.

According to some who claim involvement with the Philadelphia Experiment, Tesla was not a team player. He felt that the projects were moving too fast and that others involved were making errors in judgment in terms of their theories, ideas and expectations, especially when it came to the degaussing and stealth radar field experiments. It didn't take Tesla long to realize that many of the younger academics attached to this project had secretly considered manipulating powerful electromagnetic fields to not only create a stealth field against enemy radar, but also attain complete optical invisibility of the vessel in question. Tesla did not oppose the idea, but he felt they were going about it in the wrong way and should have informed the military liaisons of their intentions.

Tesla's greatest complaint against how the degaussing, stealth radar field and invisibility would be accomplished may have involved placing the generators needed to create the power necessary for these tasks aboard the ships. He felt that the energy could just as easy be transmitted to the target in question. In fact, that would allow the effect to be used on most any military vessel, weapon or aircraft. A whole fleet of ships and planes could be protected from a single power plant located on a barge towed by a ship. It would also allow for the delicate adjustments needed to maintain and control the necessary fields. Such control, he argued, would not be possible with a huge power plant located on each ship.

Tesla was correct in his assessment of the flaws he detected in the version of the technology being developed for the Philadelphia Experiment by the Princeton Academics. However, he probably didn't realize that even long after his death, the giant shadow of Thomas Edison was still exerting pressure on Nicola's work. Some of those that worked for Edison on early experiments with radar were now involved in a separate attempt to develop what was hoped to be a powerful new radar

system for U.S. Ships. That system required huge amounts of power. Like Edison, his protégés had no faith in Tesla. They doubted his ability to create a workable system to transmit the amount of wireless power needed to run their radar and still power the stealth and optical invisibility devices.

The Princeton Academics tried to keep Tesla in the dark as much as possible, but he was far more intelligent than they were and saw through what were trying to do. When he allegedly got wind of the involvement of some of the old Edison Company researchers, he realized what was happening and quit the project in 1942. His departure spelled doom for the Philadelphia Experiment. The first experiment in the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard brought mixed results. The ship involved became radar and optically invisible shocking Navy and other Military Officers viewing the test. Although the ship was safely degaussed without harming any of the electronic equipment on board, the same could not be said of most of the test animals involved. Animals were brought on board to test the results of the technology on living things. Many were badly burned or seemed to partially melt into the wooden deck and metal of the ship.

After making some adjustments and still ignoring Tesla's recommendations, another test was ordered. This was a sea trial with a crew on board. During this phase of the experiment, the ship again became degaussed, radar and optically invisible. However, technicians lost their ability to control the on board generators causing effects similar to those experienced by the animals during the first experiment and worse. Crew members were burned and some faded into the deck and superstructure of the ship. Others became invisible, transparent and a few just floated away.

Without Tesla's knowledge and ability to control such new and powerful technologies, the experiment never safely achieved the desired results. Instead, it went awry during later attempts causing a number of even more bizarre and unexpected results than the first shipyard or subsequent sea trial attempts. These included contact with Aliens, the opening of space/time portals and resultant time travel experiences. None of these new discoveries could be taken advantage of or developed in time to help with the war effort, but they were hardly something that the military would ignore for long. After the war, the military took another look at the original experiment and formed a committee of officers from the Navy, Marines, Army and Air Force to study what happened and develop a new program that would become the basis for future experiments involving space/time portals, time travel, mind control, teleportation and the manipulation of psychic powers. Tesla may have been an important part of their plans.

Shortly after his death in January of 1943, the FBI raided Tesla's hotel room and offices. They removed a number of items including the entire contents of his safe. Most of Tesla's papers were declared Top Secret. In an strange and still unexplained move, many of Tesla's personal items and papers that were not

considered a threat to national security were almost immediately sent back to his homeland (still occupied by Nazi forces at the time) by the U.S. Government. They used a special diplomatic Courier who flew into enemy territory and landed in an American military transport aircraft with Tesla's personal possessions on board. Many of these items are on display in the Nicola Tesla Museum in Belgrade and most of the personal papers are now apart of the Museum's archive. His ashes are also kept inside a golden sphere at the Belgrade Museum.

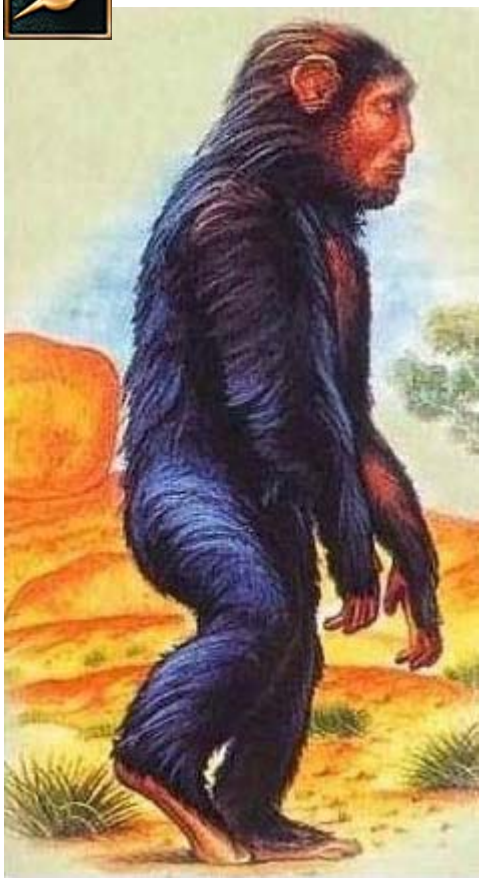
Despite the fact that the U.S. Government claims that Tesla never actually worked for them, the return of his personal items to the country of his birth by U.S. authorities during wartime and events at his funeral seem to suggest otherwise. His casket was covered with both an American and Yugoslavian Flag during the funeral. However, his casket was covered solely with an American Flag while being carried into and out of the Cathedral of St John The Divine by pallbearers which included several high-ranking members of the U.S. Military. The real question is whether or not Tesla actually died in 1943. Some witnesses claim to have seen Tesla working on later incarnations of the Philadelphia Experiment and other projects as late as the 1950s. Technically speaking, that would put him well into his 90's during that time unless time travel was possible.

Tesla's life is not an open book and probably never will be. Even now the U.S. Government recently felt it necessary to state almost seventy years after his death that the FBI is not now and never has been in possession of his death ray. That is a narrow statement that isn't fooling anyone. The FBI searched his premises after Tesla's death and seized what they considered to be of importance. That doesn't mean they actually found a working death ray machine. It's more likely that plans and notes about that and many other inventions he had yet to build were confiscated. If a death ray was later built, that task would not have been accomplished by the FBI.

Circumstantial evidence indicates that Tesla's relationship with the U.S. Government was a tempestuous one at best and certainly allows for all kinds of guess work. For example, during the building of his Wardenclyffe facility on Long Island, a number of underground tunnels were constructed. These were to be used for various purposes involving his energy distribution system and are said to have extended for many miles in all directions. Though most are blocked off or cannot be easily accessed, many of these tunnels still exist and may have been used for experiments involving more updated versions of the Philadelphia Experiment in the area of and under the infamous Montauk Base. Witnesses have claimed for years that the old radar and military facility known as Camp Hero has been used for government projects involving time travel, invisibility, mind control and psychic powers.

It's important to understand that Tesla probably thought of and envisioned technologies that he knew most people in his day would not be able to comprehend or accept. His projects were almost always multi-faceted and it's almost impossible to guess what he might have really been up to during various projects. I believe that he did achieve time travel and that the U.S. Government may have used his own inventions and work against him. It's possible that the activation of the Wardenclyffe facility could have caused some sort of catastrophe or might have hindered future government experiments involving their projects at Montauk. If so, they could have sent someone back in time to stir up enough doubt about Tesla to cause the authorities responsible for national security in those days to close down and destroy Wardenclyffe.

While all this may sound like wild speculation, when it comes to Tesla, no speculation is wild enough. Anyone that takes the time to study this genius, his theories and inventions will soon discover that he led no ordinary life and caused changes in our world that have yet to be fully seen or appreciated. Just the fact that most grade school students learn all about Thomas Edison, but may never even hear the name of Nicola Tesla during their courses of study, speaks volumes. And it's not just all about secrecy. Nicola Tesla is not a subject for the lazy learner. He is a phenomenon and force of nature and it could easily take a lifetime to understand even a small portion of what he was trying to accomplish.



IN SEARCH OF AUSTRALIA'S "BIGFOOT" — THE YOWIE

by Ray Crowe

Pam and I arrived in Australia September 27th, at Sydney "The Big Smoke's" Airport (In early days, the area was covered with smoke from fires). Had to wait to meet with host Tony Healy a few days, with the suggestion that Pam and I explore Sydney, as Tony and Mike Williams were on horseback in the outback at a Yowie sighting scene.

We explored: The Botanical Garden; Art Museum (Concentrated on Aboriginal art); Natural History Museum-dinosaur exhibit & Aboriginal artifacts; A Sidney Harbor tour; Wildlife exhibit-platypus' were very active; Aquarium and Zoo. Later the Maritime Museum—had some Interesting Aboriginal history; Zoo-on a steep hill; and a Dinosaur Museum in Canberra.

Met with Tony Healy (who, along with Paul Cropper), authored "Out of the Shadows," 1994, Macmillan, Australia. Tony drove us towards the Blue Mountains, SW of Sydney, where there was an area of many Yowie reports near Hazelbrook, Wentworth Falls, and Katoomba.

The Australian Yowie appears to be very similar to our own Bigfoot/ Sasquatch. It averages over seven foot tall, is usually black, occasionally reddish—even white, screams, makes unintelligible speech-like noises, and is even known to make loud bird-like noises; throws rocks, breaks branches, pulls up or twists trees, hits trees "wood-on-wood style," climbs trees; one "Swung himself over the cliff by a huge vine, (Tarzan style) and descended in that manner…in(to) the gorge beneath." The Yowie has heavy brow ridges, nose and face are flat, and he smells like garbage. Tony notes in "The Yowie" when the creature approached by surprise, "…the Yowie's whole body seemed to go tense and the air was full of that disgusting smell like rotting meat, but worse, more primal…" (as Dian Fossy noted with gorillas, they emit A foul odor when scared, and often poop themselves).

As with witnesses here, the hair stands up on some people necks, even before they see anything: "I was working under a tractor when the hair stood up on the back of me neck. You know—the feeling like..."

Tony and I discussed this phenomenon and wondered if the Yowie (and Bigfoot) didn't emit some low-frequency sound (like elephants do), that subconsciously scared people and dogs.

The Yowie is often described as having sharp fangs…unlike Bigfoot, or having long claws (probably long nails sharpened by use), though the yowie track photos I've noted illustrated don't seem to show any nail signs. Also, they have rounded heads, rather than pointed like the P/G's "Patty." They sometimes sway, waddle, walk sideways like a crab, or even are known to go on all-fours. They are omnivores, eating meat: kangaroos or apples, they peel bananas, really like honey and according to some Aborigines, even devour "bad" little children.

Poop is big also, a "log" was found measuring 18 inches by 8 inches around, and human looking, composed of insects and vegetable matter. They make beds of grass, leaves, saplings, often under overhanging rock, or they make tunnels in a thicket. A bed was 6 inches deep, and had a 12 inch pillow. After 2-3 months, the creature would move on, perhaps to a different food source. Dr. Henner Fahrenbach identified hairs as being like that of a sasquatch.

The tracks of the Yowie fall into three broad categories…the five-toes with round heels, the three-toed with longer tapered heels, and the clubfeet…one case being described by Tony as," One of its feet resembled the hoof of a horse and the other was club shaped…Feet of Clay: The most difficult thing to establish about the yowie is the shape of its feet." Tracks are rare, of some 300 sightings, only 35 had visible tracks.

I read recently in "Mutant Message Down Under, Marlo Morgan, 1994 (a novel based on true events); wondering if it could apply to some "tender footed" Yowies, perhaps moving across the Western Divide from the deserts…"We were walking on spinfex…beach grass…splinters embedded under my skin…steak knife sharp blades…barbs on them are like cactus tips." And, "As the blisters dried and hardened, a sort of hoof began to form…started developing a good-sized callus across the bottoms of m feet, similar to my companions' hoof appearance."

Rex heading north
Yowie search continues

The Yowie times of activity are similar to that of the Pacific Northwest Bigfoot also. The peak activity is from 9PM to 3AM, when they apparently snooze until past morning, not being early risers, and are active again from 10AM to 5PM, and then it's rest time again. This is similar to the graph I plotted for our Pacific Northwest Bigfoot.

Met Mike Williams, exchanged plaster footprints…I gave him Bossberg track copies in return for Yowie track copies. Mike is investigating "Mystery Cats," and has also given us a cat track copy. He thinks the cat might be similar to our cougar…but there is a lot of variation in the reports. One lady reports WWII GI's releasing a breeding pair. Actual black leopards are known from Africa and Asia.

THIS WEEK AUSTRALIA
'BIG FOOT' OF THE BUSH

Also met investigator Neil Frost and his wife, Sandy, in the Blue Mountains. Their family and 60 neighbors have had a 20 year ongoing relationship with the Yowies, as they often visited his home…on the porch, and in the yard, several times, coming from a nearby swamp.

Neil, a trained anthropologist and teaching at present, invited Pam and I to their beautiful home, just off The Great Western Highway, running down the crest of the Blue Mountains. The "Hairy Man" had been seen also by his wife, son and daughter; as they growled, roared, damaged trees, left footprints, thumped walls…and they nicknamed him "Fatfoot" (see the track). Prior to 1985, while building their house in the bush, they found 20 huge footprints across fresh turned soil…they thought at the time, it was a joke by somebody with rubber feet.

The creature would tear apart tree bark of the bloodwood and other trees, apparently for grubs, and often leave marks of four fangs. One wonders if this was its home territory, and lacking room to move on, it stayed. Neal tried to photograph it using infrared light, but it stayed just out of range. Possibly a good idea for people who might want privacy from the creatures looking in their windows…erect IR lights. Neil tried later to get good plaster tracks by laying down a blanket of sand, which the creature avoided. Perhaps if one were to plant a vegetable garden, and keep the soil tilled frequently? Wonder what the creature would do if you put an electric fence up?

Oct 3rd, visited Hargaves Lookout, atop steep sandstone cliffs. We were able to overlook the site where Tony and Mike had previously went in on horseback to examine a Yowie sighting area. The lady witness, Catherine Bolton, had been riding around at 11:30 AM on September 6th, with her four other companions when the four foot tall, dark brown-black creature appeared, only 60-90 feet away, spooking her horse, which, after trying to bite her, threw her against a gum tree and broke two ribs, her collar bone, and she also had many contusions. The Yowie was standing in full view in the bush between two trees, and staring at them. There was an awful odor, and her girlfriend yelled, "What the hell was that?" as she saw the yowie running; "Did you see that?" It looked more like a monkey person, long hair, square shoulders, squashed nose, canine teeth, three claws on the feet. And they kept smelling the foul thing. It had something in its left hand…possibly a dead kangaroo.

Friend Sarah said the horses were peeing everywhere, as the creature was only 5 to 30 feet away from her. "It was just glaring at me…then it ran…It was time to get outta' there." The half human-half animal had canines like a vampire. It was a darkish black-brown color.

At the Blue Mountains National Park we visited the Sky Lift, that took us down the steep sandstone cliffs to explore the rainforest and an abandoned coal mine. At the top were bronze statues; recalling the witch doctor that changed three maidens into stone pillars. The Dreamtime story says that the three maidens fell in love with men from a neighboring tribe, and it was forbidden for them to wed…war broke out between the tribes, and the witch doctor turned the maidens to stone to protect them. Then the witch doctor was killed…and there was no way or no one to turn them back to human again. Pam had a different version to relate.

On Tablelands Road near Wentworth Falls (I posed holding bananas as bait for the Yowie), Justin Garlick, a teenager was terrified by three Yowies after having a spat and leaving his girlfriend at home in a huff. Totally freaked out, said he "pooped" himself, he finally drove them off using an air horn.

Also at Wentworth Falls, we visited the memorial to Charles Darwin. He only made one trip into the Blue Mountains on horseback up Jamison Creek from the Beagle in January, 1836 (this is 23 years before he wrote "On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection.").

At Maloneys Beach on the edge of Murranirang Park we were able to see a "mob" of 'roos…perhaps 30 of them.

There was a haunted guest house, the Doncaster Inn. It used to be a nunnery/ seminary of the Anglican Church. At Tidbinbilla Park there were several wild emu's. A fenced area protected nocturnal koalas from predators, but none of them were seen except a caged sleeping koala. Stopped for photos at the Tidbilla Space Center…first to receive lunar landing data in 1969.

We were unable to meet with Yowie investigators Paul Cropper or Dean Harrison, as both were working. Members will perhaps recall that in 2001 and 2002 (I think it was) Dean had sent us video tapes on the search for the Yowie in Australia…Dean indicated the creature was quite aggressive.

Tony Healy and Paul Cropper have written another book, an extensive study of "The Yowie," due to be published in November, order from Amazon.com. He'll give us more ordering information later. Tony also introduced me to several other books, of which I'll give some sample sightings from. First from his book, "The Yowie," and second from an unpublished book of Tony's, "Monster Safari," 1983.

Tony indicates in "The Yowie" that reports have a broad historical base. The earliest he records is from 1789, Botany Bay, New South Wales. It comes from a handbill circulated in England with a story about a nine-foot tall hairy wild man that was captured at Botany Bay, and then taken to Portsmouth, England. The report is interesting in that, even though a possible hoax, Botany Bay is only eight kilometers north of Port Hacking, that had reported in the 1850's many sightings of the giant, hairy "yahoos (another name commonly used for Yowie's)." There have even been two more credible reports in modern times from the same area. The reason Tony thinks this is a hoax is that, even if the creature died after arriving, there would still be a body left…bones and such, and others would have examined and reported on them.

There is also a Littlefoot, a smaller creature about 3 feet tall called a Junjudee. Rob Alley in Alaska has written a lot on these creatures, and they have been mentioned numerous times in the Track Record.

From "Monster Safari," 1983, Tony Healy, Unpublished. This report actually is from near Suva, in the Fiji Islands, but very interesting.

In the Sun Herald, Sydney, 20 July 1975, students, 10-14 years old, at school saw eight mysterious hairy dwarfs; Littlefoot, or junjudee, as the Aborigines call them, in reeds near school. One witness reported they were only two feet tall, black hair and white gleaming eyes. They ran away into the bush after: "it took a threatening step towards her, baring its little white teeth," Tony quoted. They went into a pit with a narrow tunnel, "but nobody felt gung-ho enough to explore any further…dropped a banana down…a hairy hand came out of the tunnel and grabbed it."

In 1979 Little hairy ape men were attacking teenagers at Charters Towers, in Queensland, says Tony in "The Yowie." Nineteen year old Michael Mangan, told the police, as later in an area riddled with mine shafts a lost friend appeared, also frightened. A three foot tall black creature had smashed the window of the car.

Aboriginal lore supports the existence of tiny hairy men in various Australian localities. They have five toes, reflective red eyes, live in groups in caves or natural hollows among boulders, eat shellfish, love honey, and are even thought to have a sort of "chirping" language. They are generally thought to be mischievous but still harmless, but have "teeth like a greyhound, big fangs." Some males are known to sport beards on a flat face, and have a foul body odor. A rabbit hunter shot a rabbit when one of the little people grabbed it and dashed away over the rocks. Aboriginal members of the Waka Waka tribe believe that the junjudee keep an eye on sick people, though they act violently to destruction in the environment…one fellow being attacked

while ringbarking trees. Another tells of a little hairy man attacking his uncle while in bed…he wrestled with the powerful little creature, until eventually it fled out of a window. Sounds like a fairly aggressive creature to me.

Rather reminds one of the new species of Man found on Flores Island…The three foot tall Homo florensis from Ling Bua Cave some 13,000 years ago…expect they probably somehow reached the mainland also, although mainland Australia is 430 miles away from Flores.

"Out of the Shadows-Mystery Animals of Australia." 1994, Tony Healy and Paul Cropper. In January, 1978, Scott, from Springbrook, said a Yowie entered the open door of a house in the evening. He was alone when the creature walked up to the front door, and stood peering down the corridor. Scott threw a chair at the Yowie, which hopped or limped away. He said the animal was black, and about six feet tall. The head was egg shaped and had deep set eyes with a small screwed up nose, and smelled like a public lavatory.

"Giants From the Dreamtime—The Yowie in Myth and Reality," Rex Gilroy, 2001, Springwood Printing. In April 1972, two mates driving on the Western Midlands highway, saw a creature 7 feet tall run across the road in their headlights. It took big strides.

"Mysterious Australia," Rex Gilroy, 1995, Nexus Publishing. Gilroy also says that in the ancient mudstone on a hillside near Cowra, central NSW, are two enormous manlike fossil footprints, one meter long and 45 centimeters wide. Local Aborigines claim it was made by a giant man over 20 feet tall, who lived in long ago dreamland. Rex also talks of an extinct giant marsupial of the Ice Ages that could have left the fossil tracks.

"Bunyips and Bigfoots—In Search of Australia's Mystery Animals," Malcom Smith, 1996, Millennium Books. October 1912 near Bombela, NSW, a grey haired Yowie was seen in broad daylight drinking water while on all fours. It stood up, picked up a stick and walked away. It was Over six feet tall.

"The Hairy man of South Eastern Australia," Graham C. Joyner, 1977. Union Offset PTY LTD press. In a November 1912 issue of "The Sun" a Yahoo taller than a man was seen that climbed trees. It grabbed a female Aborigine by the throat and strangled her on the spot.

"The Adventures of Tim the Yowie Man—Cryptozoologist," Tim Bull, 2001, Random House. At Springbrook, SE Queensland, November 17, 1977, in the Gold Coast Bulletin. Senator Bill O'Chee saw a Yowie that was 9 feet tall, covered in hair and with a flat face. It walked to one side, crab-like, and smashed sapling and trees like matchsticks.

Tim also tells of a 1994 sighting near Mount Franklin, in the Brindabella Mountains, near Canberra. At dusk, the sun had set, a massive ape-like creature was seen on a fire trail from the summit at the ski chalet some 300 feet away. It was black, had long arms, and was moving at a slow pace.

What are the Yowie's and where did they come from? So far, most of the writers I've read appear to be of the opinion that they represent Homo erectus, originating from Indonesia, where several erectus bones were found on Java. Erectus possibly traveled to Australia early during the last Ice Age, as they had been known from Asia for 1,500,000 years. Eugene Dubois first discovered Pithecanthropus erectus in 1891 in Trinil, Java. Nearby Sangaran fossils were aged at 1,700,00 to 300,000 years in age. Modern man didn't appear to make it across the water barrier by reed raft until 50,000 to 100,000 years ago. The modern Aborigines are perhaps a mixture of a Chinese type (more gracile) and Java type erectus (more robust); as suggested in "Man On The Rim-the Peopling of the Pacific," by Alan Thorne and Robert Raymond, 1989, Angus Pub. There are numerous examples of Yowie's taking human women, presumably mating with them, and leaving viable offspring, eventually resulting possibly in the modern Aborigines.

There are 40 skeletons excavated by Alan Thorne, paleoanthropologist, from the Kow Swamp, in the Murray Valley, that still retain the heavy brow ridges found in Indonesian erectus…but they are only 10-13,000 years old, so differ somewhat as they have evolved from the really ancient ones. Other anthropologists disagree with the fact that they are H. erectus.

It is possible that early-on, the Aborigines eradicated the bulk of the Homo erectus types, the remaining few escaping to less desirable areas (as is possible in the U.S.) and are today noted as being Yowies.

Homo erectus reached Flores island, west of Australia, some 840,000 years ago, and persisted until possibly only 300 years ago. The small size is comparable to other insular isolated fauna…there were elephants hunted on the island that were the size of cows. It will be argued that H. erectus had tools and a culture…even that the Kow swamp burials had artifacts with them…thus, these creatures could not be the Yowie.

I counter with the argument that culture

can be easily lost, either by lack of interest, or loss of those knowledgeable on the production of cultural artifacts. The Tasmanians when first contacted by Europeans in the 1700's are a good example. Since colonization during the Ice Ages, they had lost the art of boat building for fishing, how to make bone tools such as awls or needles, hafted axes, boomerangs, and spear throwing atlatl's. But most important of all…they have lost the ability to make fire. If the flames are lost, they ate their meat raw.

From Aboriginal legend, it appears that there were wars in the past where Homo erectus covered the land, and Aborigines killed the mentally slower erectus, outsmarting them and spearing them at every opportunity.

Some notes from: "The Yowie" by Tony Healy

The Warlpiri and Pintubi of the Northern Territory are the only tribes who say the creatures use fire…and are agile enough to climb trees. Aboriginal lore sometimes hints that male yowies like to grab women for reasons other than homicide...Aldo Massola (Aboriginie) tells…The women were released after a while…Big Charlie stood his ground and prepared to fight…later bleeding from a profusion of Yowie wounds …there are several accounts of Aborigines besting them in a fight and even killing them….Black Harry told of…warriors (that) killed one…dragged it down the hill by its ankles."

And: In the Dreamtime the people of this area were driven from their lands by the mountain people, the Yowies. Two of the local people reorganized the people back together and …drove the Yowies away…Aborigines belief...the three white men…jimbras (Yowies) not only killed them—but also ate them.

It is with great appreciation that I thank Tony Healy for all of his considerations while we were in the land of OZ (Australia). He was a superb guide, well educated on the history and geography of his land and its peoples; knew all the perfect spots to take us to see Yowie report sites, wildlife—even a kookaburra bird, "mobs" of 'roos, and wild emu's; and, allowed Pam and I to be guests in his beautiful home with the front yard full of exotic birds at the feeders.

raycrowe@netzero.com

Try a free sample issue of FATE magazine!

Read about the latest in:
• Alternative Archaeology
• Crop Circles
• Leading Edge Science
• Psychic Phenomena
• Alternative Healing
• UFOs
• Angels and Miracles
• And much, much more!

Fact-filled, true, fascinating accounts of the paranormal.

Send $3.00 for s&h and we'll send you an entire issue of FATE with no obligation.*

...or subscribe!

A year's subscription—12 color-filled issues—is only $31.95—that's over 40% off the regular cover price.
Write FATE, PO Box 460NAR, Lakeville MN 55044
or email fate@fatemag.com
or visit our website
www.fatemag.com

*Due to postal regulations, we cannot mail sample issues to incarcerated individuals. Offer valid only in North America. Limited Time Offer.

The Flushing Meadows Park Zoo Animal Mutilations and UFO Mystery

September 1991 Edition of The Queens Tribune

By William Knell

Flushing Meadows Park has a long and unusual history. It is located ten miles east of Manhattan on Long Island in the Borough of Queens, New York City, between the towns of Flushing and Corona. The park started out as swampy land situated along Flushing Creek. The area skirted ancient Native American trails that were later developed into Rodman Street (today it's called College Point Boulevard), Roosevelt Avenue and other paved roadways.

The place had a bad reputation among the original inhabitants. The Jameco, Reckowacky and Mespat Indians avoided fishing and hunting in that area. Most animals stayed away from the Mosquito ridden grounds with its stale water and often foul odor. When Dutch and English Settlers arrived in the region during the early to mid-1600s and began to establish farms, homes and business, they found the swampy land equally repulsive.

The Settlers called the area "rotten land" and avoided it for health and superstitious reasons. Odd lights were often seen high over the swamp and some of these sightings were noted in early church logbooks. These sightings should not be confused with swamp gas, a natural phenomenon that requires certain environmental elements to be present when it occurs and never appears very far off the ground.

Because of its location and inability to be used for much else, the swampy land became a dumping area for ashes. By the 1920's, it was known as the Corona Ash Dumps. F. Scott Fitzgerald called the place "a valley of ashes" in The Great Gatsby, his famous 1925 novel about Long Island Society. However, the once worthless area was about to be transformed into a marvelous showplace thanks to a grand event known as the World's Fair.

Because it was one of the few large blocks of land still available for development in the New York City area, Parks Commissioner Robert Moses and city planners devised a plan to clear and fill the land for use as the site of the 1939-1940 New York World's Fair. Most of the ashes and refuse were incorporated into the bases of new highways that were being built around and through that area. These later

became the Grand Central Parkway, Van Wyck Expressway, Interboro Parkway and Long Island Expressway.

After the 1939-1940 World's Fair ended in 1940, many of the structures from the fair were leveled and the area became known as Flushing Meadows-Corona Park. A few of the buildings that remained included the New York State Pavilion that was used as the first home to the United Nations from 1946 until 1951 when that organization moved into their permanent location in Manhattan. That building still exists today and has become the Queens Museum of Art.

Flushing Meadows Park again became the home to an international exposition after it was chosen as the location for the 1964-1965 New York World's Fair. After the fair closed, the area again was left with a few prominent buildings from the event including the Unisphere, the Heliport (which became a catering establishment) and the Observation Towers (featured in the Men in Black film with Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones). The area also became home to Shea Stadium (used by the NY Mets Baseball Team), the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center (where the U.S. Open is held), a zoo and other facilities used for swimming, aquatic and boating events.

During the 1964-1965 World's Fair, there were several UFO sightings that made the news. Most were described as lights in the sky and were explained away as aircraft taking off or landing at nearby LaGuardia Airport. However, it should be noted that people in that area are used to seeing all kinds of aircraft and aircraft lights associated with landings and takeoffs from LaGuardia and JFK Airports. They know when they see something different in the day or night sky.

The sightings of strange lights above the old fairgrounds continued after the World's Fair ended and in 1966, one of the most startling occurred. Hundreds of motorists driving on the Grand Central Parkway side of Flushing Meadows Park reported seeing a large luminescent blue-green object, which looked "like a glowing dirigible that came into view and then descended into the lake," at about 7:40 in the evening. A press report from those days stated:

"A number of observers said that the object appeared to correspond to the descriptions of UFOs reported in Michigan the previous week, which Air Force experts had attributed to swamp gas discharged from lake bottoms in springtime. This explanation did not satisfy everyone in Queens. Some thought that "maybe the Martians wanted to visit the World's Fair, and didn't know it was over."

More recently, a number of reports came in about white and green lights in a triangular formation seen moving back and forth over Flushing Meadows Park during July 2-5, 2008. Some of the witnesses said that the lights suddenly appeared, disappeared and reappeared again between 10pm and 3am on those dates. However, strange lights are not the only bizarre phenomena associated with UFOs that has occurred in the park.

In 1968, the Flushing Meadows Zoo opened in Flushing Meadows Park on the grounds of the 1964-1965 World's Fair. Although small in scale, the zoo had a number of exhibits and plenty of animals including sea lions, black bears, sheep, bison, mountain lions, coyotes, bald eagles, birds and wolves. Since its opening, the Zoo has been associated with several disturbing UFO events. The first may have occurred in 1977.

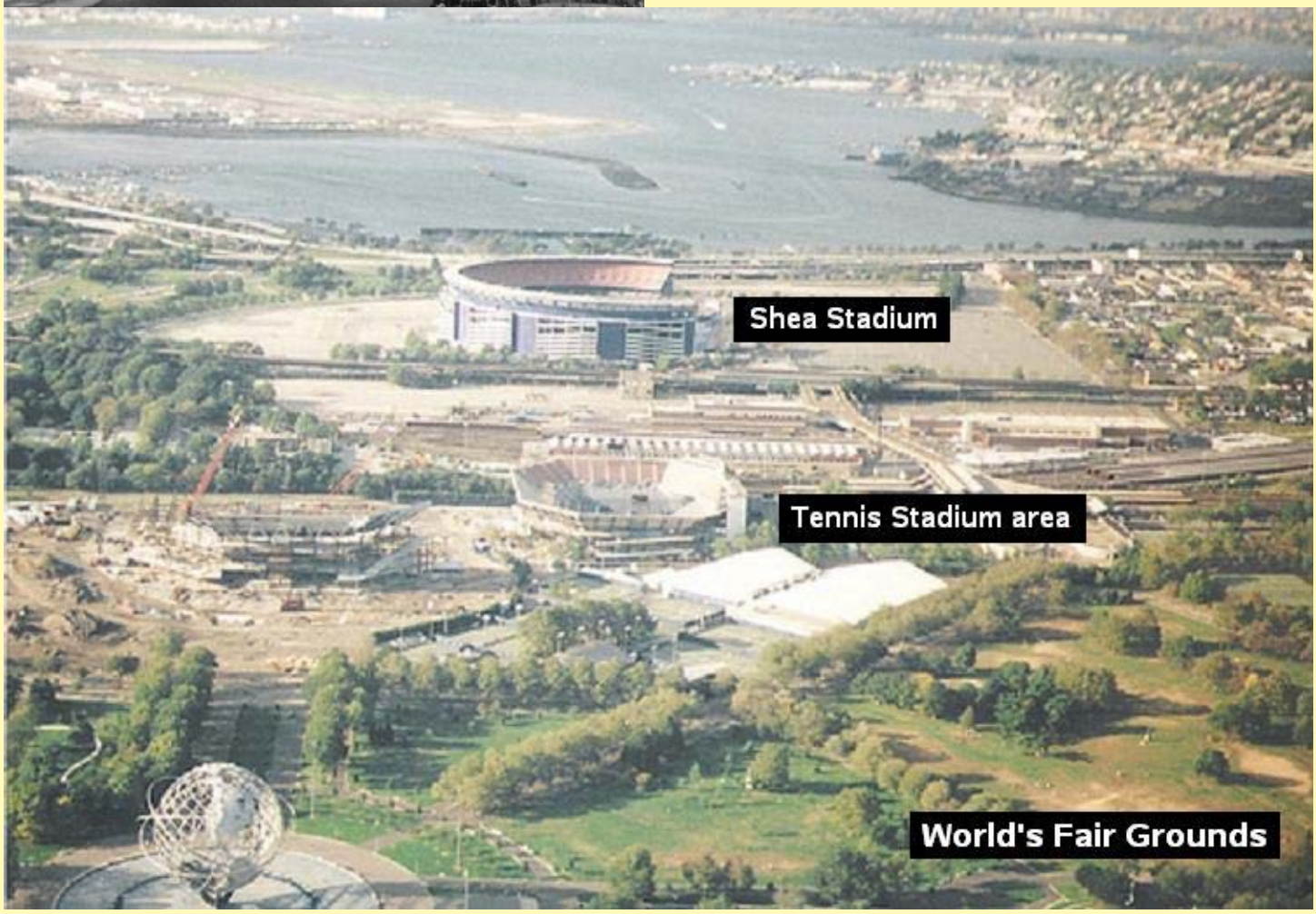
After several nights of UFO sightings above the park, wolves managed to escape from the zoo on November 30, 1977. Official reports said that twelve wolves clawed their way through a chain link fence surrounding their pen and killed several other animals until they were recaptured by parks department personnel and police. However, a caretaker working there at the time said that while making his rounds he found several animals missing, not just the wolves, and others dead. The dead animals did not look like they had been killed by predators. He also said that none of the animal pens or enclosures had been unlocked, damaged or tampered with.

There have been a number of odd instances where UFO sightings are associated with the sudden appearance or

disappearance of animals. Animals found to be missing from zoos turn up elsewhere without explanation. Wild animals not native to an area suddenly appear in that area also without explanation. All this tends to occur during times when UFOs are observed nearby.

The caretaker present during the 1977 event first contacted me in 1989 about another and far more disturbing occurrence at the Zoo. He and several others that worked there met me near the area of the zoo. It was being rebuilt at the time and they claimed that the reason for that was something so disturbing that I still have trouble grasping the enormity of what happened.

After seeing me on a local television news broadcast talking about a major UFO sighting and landing in nearby Kissena Park, several employees of the zoo called my UFO hotline and asked to meet with me. After a phone conversation with one of them, I met them at Flushing Meadows Park and we talked about what happened at the zoo. It began with two nights of UFO sightings in 1987. Green and white balls of light that formed into all sorts of shapes hovered



directly above the zoo and caused the animals to become greatly disturbed.

Due to budget cuts and because there were police in the park all night long, caretakers and other zoo employees were no longer present at the zoo all night. The last one would leave around 11pm and show up again around 7:30am to open up the zoo for the other employees. On the morning after the two nights of UFO sightings in 1987, the caretaker and several other employees opened up the zoo and were horrified to find every animal in the zoo dead. Not just dead, but strangely mutilated.

The caretaker and other employees told me that all of the animals were still locked or secured in their pens and exhibits with no sign of forced or keyed entry. Although they were unable to photograph any of the animals, they said all of them looked as though they had been surgically autopsied or examined. Despite the deaths and apparent mutilation, little or no blood was present. Needless to say, the zoo was closed without explanation and "No Trespassing" signs were placed near the entrance and on fences surrounding it.

Parks Department personnel and police were summoned. The zoo was closed and within hours, all of the dead animal carcasses were removed. At that point, plans were made for the zoo to be leveled. Officially, the deaths never happened at that point and the press showed no interest in the matter if it was even reported to them at all. With plans already in the works to refurbish the zoo buildings, it was not that hard to arrange for the entire zoo property to be rebuilt from the ground up with new ground.

All of the old buildings and enclosures were destroyed and several inches of dirt were removed from the area of the zoo. During this time, none of the employees that spoke to me were allowed near the place. Most were assigned to other temporary duties in the park. When it officially reopened in 1988, the zoo had all already undergone a $16 million rebuilding. All new buildings, exhibits and animals were now available to the public.

The zoo employees that spoke to me said that the animal deaths and mutilations were eventually explained away as the work of vandals or ritualistic killers in an internal report. However, they point out that vandals would have made all kinds of noise trying to kill the animals, had to break into most of the pens and exhibits and would have left a significant amount of blood and other evidence behind. None of those things were present, no alarms went off and park

police and other employees working in nearby areas on the night in question heard nothing.

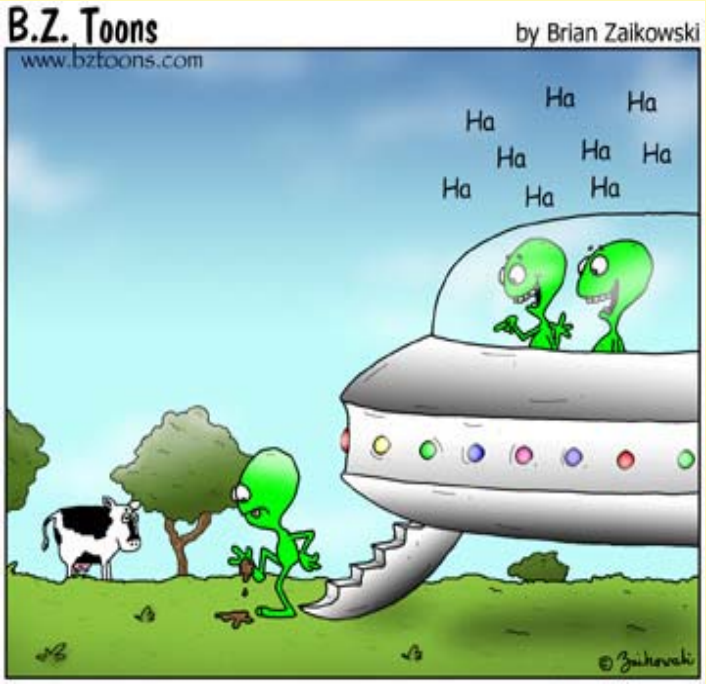
The only reason that the caretaker and employees contacted me with their stories was because they felt that the possibility existed that the same thing could happen again and found the previous explanation for the deaths and mutilations to be ridiculous. In fact, UFOs were seen over the zoo again in 1991. At that time there were no deaths or mutilations, but the same employees told me that several animals were found to be missing from the zoo. They were not specific about which animals were missing and, by that time, were in fear of losing their jobs. Again, the zoo was closed without explanation with "No Trespassing" signs were placed near the entrance and all around the area.

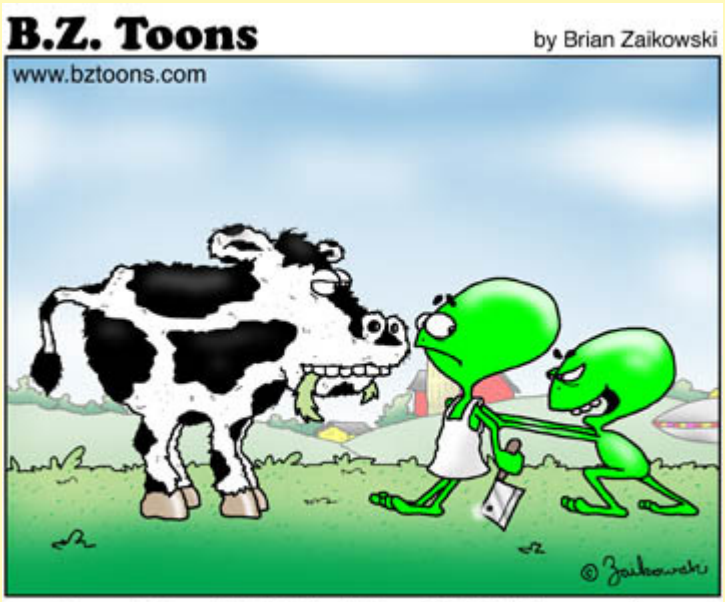
During the unannounced and temporarily closure, yet another expensive zoo upgrade took place. This one not only involved some new exhibits and rebuilds, but the installation of sophisticated security devices. A dew local papers noticed the closure and asked questions, but officials merely said that funds had suddenly become available for an upgrade and that it needed to be completely before the money ran out. The zoo reopened to the public in June of 1992. No further incidents have occurred that I am aware of, but all of the employees that first contacted me in 1989 have retired. UFO sightings continue over Flushing Meadow Park.

It's important to understand that a number of animal disappearances and mutilations associated with UFO sightings have occurred for many years throughout the world. Cows, horses and other farm animals have especially been targets of this type of activity. As with the zoo animals, little blood is found nearby when mutilation occur. Animals are found missing from locked barns and secured pens. Farmers and ranchers have reported these kinds of incidents, while law enforcement officers and veterinary practitioners have been at a loss to explain them.

A few human mutilations associated with UFO events have also been reported. Fortunately, these incidents are rare. After a B-52 crash in Laos during the Vietnam War, a Special Forces team sent in to retrieve the crew found them all dead, still strapped into their seats and strangely mutilated. No blood was present. The photos and information collected at the site were later placed in a secret report known as Blue Book Report 13. That indicates that the U.S. Government somehow associated that incident with UFOs.

There have been a number of unexplained animal deaths, disappearances and mutilations throughout Long Island over the years. These include the discovery of a Saint Bernard dog that was found in another Queens park turned inside out in the 1980s, a number of missing dogs and cats that mysteriously vanished from Suffolk County neighborhoods in the 1990s, wild game missing from a lodge where hunting was permitted in the Montauk area during the 1970s-1980s, and a few cattle mutilations in both Nassau and Suffolk Counties during the 1980s to the present.




B.Z. Toons
by Brian Zaikowski
www.bztoons.com
©Zaikowski
C'mon! c'mon! I didn't drive 4.35 light-years for you to chicken out at the last minute!

UK UFO Sightings May Have Link to 1974 Welsh 'Roswell' and USA Encounters

It's been thirty-four years since an amazing and still unexplained event occurred in North Wales which involved strange lights in the sky, odd tremors, 'Men In Black' types sweeping the countryside for information and something that crashed somewhere in the Berwyn mountains. It's been called the Welsh 'Roswell' because just like the event that allegedly occurred in New Mexico, USA, in 1947, the North Wales case may have involved a crashed UFO, dead Aliens and a government cover-up.

The story begins on January 23, 1974, when the villages of Llandrillo and Llandderfel, near Corwen, were shaken by a tremor measuring 3.5 on the Richter scale. Colored lights began to appear in the sky after the tremor. During the next three weeks there was quite a bit of unexplained military activity in the area and people dressed in dark suits began asking locals a lot of questions about the lights, the tremor and anything they might have seen on various dates.

Local First Responders like Firefighter Adrian Roberts experienced the tremor and cover-up first hand. He says he was thrown off a sofa where he was sitting when the tremor hit. Roberts also claims that the military came into the area and declared several areas 'off limits' to local authorities and the public alike. Retired North Wales Police Assistant Chief Constable Elfed Roberts was driving to Llandrillo just after the tremor with his superior and claims that they both saw an odd green light in the sky. He also says that the local police were kept away from certain areas after the tremor.

Astronomers and skeptics went out of their way to convince people that a meteor shower coincidently occurred during the tremor that accounted for any strange objects seen in the sky. The lights were explained away as 'earthquake lights' which sometime appear after a major quake, although what people were reporting did not correspond to the classic descriptions of those. The 'Men in Black' types were explained away as seismologists in the area to research the quake, but none of them made such claims.

Although the recent release of MOD UFO documents didn't shed any light on what really crashed in the Berwyn mountain range, a new witness has come forward that might be able to help fill in the blanks. Geraint Edwards, of Llandderfel, Denbighshire, is a retired gamekeeper. He recently gave an interview to Channel 5 in the UK and said that he saw a classic "Flying Saucer" hover above the Berwyn mountains for at least ten minutes on February 15, 1974 before it shot up into the sky at "an impossible speed" (roughly three weeks after all the bizarre activity began).

The interview is part of a Channel 5 (UK) Special about the North Wales events set to air this month (June 2008) in the UK. During the interview, Edwards told a reporter, "'It was definitely a flying saucer. It was a pity I didn't have a camera because it was there for at least 10 minutes, just hovering… We were on the way down to play darts when something caught our eye in the south-east, so we stopped. It looked like a rugger ball, but the ends of it were more pointy. When it took off, it just went like lightning on the same line as it hovered. I wrote it down in my diary. It was 6.45pm on the Friday night.

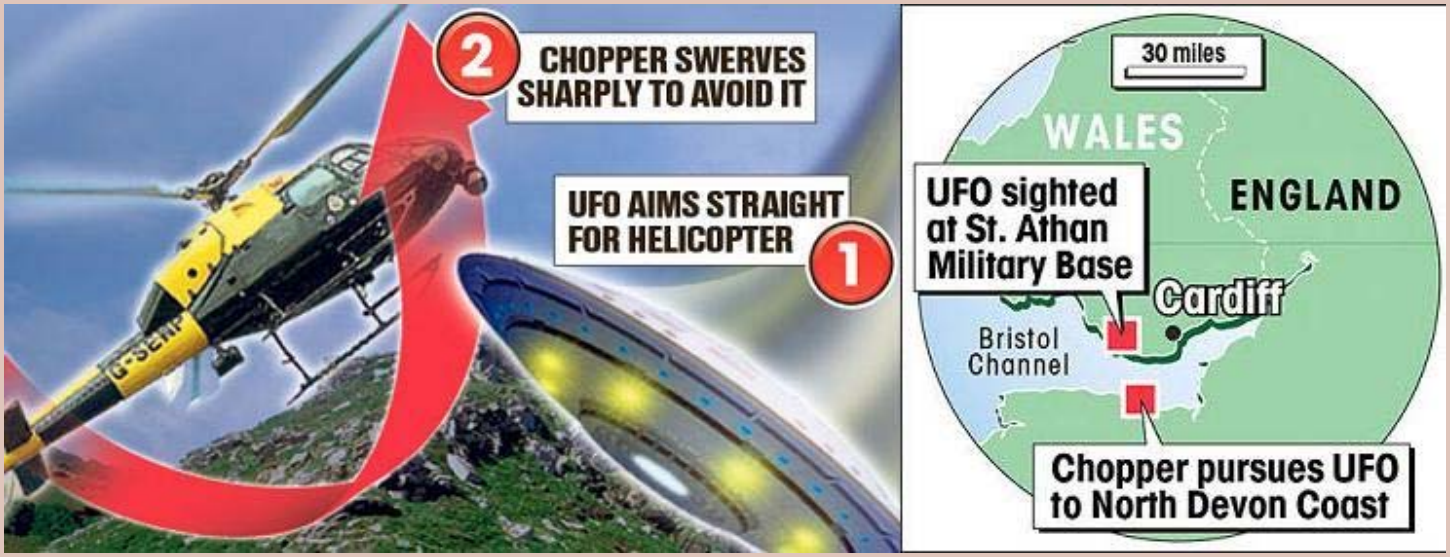
If we were coming back from the pub, people would be saying, “They’ve had one or two.” But we were going TO the pub.”

According to other witnesses which include farmers, local first responders, unidentified whistleblowers, residents and tourists, at least one object and its Alien occupants were recovered by British Forces and taken to the Wiltshire research base Porton Down, a top-secret MOD facility. Local witnesses agree that whatever happened back then, none of them had ever experienced or seen anything like it before.

Recent sightings in Wales and the UK bring back memories of the 1974 event as strange lights and flying discs are again seen in these areas, ridiculous cover stories are offered and the MOD is not anxious to investigate the matters or provide any answers. In fact, several UFO events in the USA include elements of both the 1974 and more recent UK UFO sightings and encounters.

Over the past year (2007-2008), UFOs have been seen in conjunction with loud explosions, minor earth quakes and unexplained military activity in Texas, Indiana, Illinois, Arizona, New Jersey and Massachusetts in the USA. Strange spherical objects and debris have been recovered, military jets have been observed chasing UFOs and witnesses have been threatened by the authorities.

By Bill Knell



Welsh Police Helicopter Encounters A UFO - June 7-8, 2008

Cardiff, Wales, UK - Stunned police gave chase to a UFO after it attacked their helicopter near a military base. The mystery aircraft zoomed straight at the chopper as the three-man cop crew prepared to land. The pilot banked sharply to avoid being hit, then launched into a high-speed pursuit. But he was forced to give up the chase as the helicopter’s fuel ran low – and the UFO escaped. All three crew described the object as “flying saucer-shaped” and circled by flashing lights. They reported it to senior officers, who passed on the report to Britain’s UFO investigators.

The incident happened as the helicopter was returning to the MoD’s St Athan base near Cardiff, where it is stationed. The chopper was at 500ft and waiting to land when the crew saw the UFO speeding towards them from below. A source said: “It closed in at great speed, aiming straight at the helicopter.

“The chopper had to swerve sharply to avoid being hit. The guys said if they’d stayed where they were, they’d be dead – it would’ve been a direct hit. They are convinced it was a UFO. It sounds far-fetched, but they know what they saw. These guys are hardened professionals and know people will take the mickey, but they are certain they saw a UFO.”

The source added: “After the near-collision they decided to follow it to find out what the hell it was. They belted across the Bristol Channel in pursuit, but it was too quick. They got to the North Devon coast and had to turn back because they were running low on fuel.”

The chopper is crammed with hi-tech cameras and surveillance gear, but the UFO somehow avoided being caught on film. Strangely, the crew could not see the craft with night-vision goggles – but all said it was “clearly visible” to the naked eye on the night of June 7. South Wales Police said last night: “We can confirm the Air Support Unit sighted an unusual aircraft. This was reported to the relevant authorities for their investigation.”

Welch UFO

The MoD, which usually investigates UFO sightings, said: "We've heard nothing about this. But it is certainly not advisable for police helicopters to go chasing what they think are UFOs."

MORE...from THE SUN (UK)

Hundreds of UFO sightings over Wales were reported yesterday after a mystery craft threatened a police helicopter. The Sun was bombarded with calls from readers who also saw the UFO on the same night as the chopper drama in Cardiff. And the mystery deepened as experts revealed airline pilots have spotted hundreds of UFOs over the nearby Bristol Channel this year. We exclusively revealed yesterday how the helicopter's three-man crew took evasive action to avoid being rammed by the UFO. They then chased it to North Devon before giving up as fuel ran low.

Dawn Williams, 45, feared an Independence Day-style alien invasion when she spotted a sinister shape in the sky above Aberdare Country Park hours earlier, on June 8. She said: "It came over the horizon and was traveling for about a minute and a half before it disappeared.

"It was circular and had a dome on top – it looked like a planet with rings. I didn't say anything at the time because I didn't think anyone would believe me."

Cabaret duo Katy Cunnion and Russell Quinn said a weird light in the sky followed them on the A5 near Shrewsbury an hour after the 'copter scare. Katy, 25, said: "It was hovering. At first I thought it was a helicopter, but every time I changed direction it was in the same place. "It disappeared, then I got a bit freaked out when the light came back close enough for us to see it was saucer-shaped with lights which flashed from one to another in a chain.

"It looked like no plane or aircraft I had ever seen." It finally zoomed off "like a shooting star" after an hour. Katy's description of the UFO matches the one given by the helicopter cops. Expert David Coggins, who has studied UFOs for 30 years, revealed: "I'm told that in the past three months airline pilots have been reporting at least two or three encounters a week with UFOs over the Bristol Channel. "Many of them will have rational explanations, but the probability is around 15 to 20 per cent can't be identified."

The Ministry of Defence, which investigates UFO sightings, said it was still awaiting the police report on the helicopter incident.

SAUCER MODEL KITS

$14.95

$9.95

Small Lighted EVE Kit
Unique UFO with built-in lights. Watch the multi-colored lights rotate under the craft. Kit is magnetically sealed! You pull hull apart to turn on light system (included).

Here's the new TR3-B model kit you've been asking for! Based on many eye-witness sightings, this UFO is rumored to belong to our Air Force and is reverse engineered from captured UFOs. About 6 inches in diameter. This injection molded kit includes upper/lower hull and 3 landing gear.

The Northern Georgia Bigfoot Body

(cont from page 39)

have given no indication that the body will be on display, just photos and DNA evidence. While appearing on the Fox News Channel to discuss the carcass and the upcoming press event, Tom Biscardi told reporter Megan Kelly that he would allow her to come and see the body.

Megan, who always seems to dismiss any story about the paranormal out of hand, challenged the credibility of the carcass photo by saying, "To me the top of that looks like an ape suit head." Many bloggers, most well-known skeptics, a costume expert and a few paranormal researchers agree with her assessment of the head. She also questioned why Biscardi and the others involved would not simply allow the press immediate access to the body. Biscardi danced around that issue by inviting Megan Kelly to come and see the carcass "next week when I get the scientists out there" and would not elaborate about the location of the carcass.

As someone who has dealt with his own huge share of reporters and members of the press, I can tell you that Tom and the others involved with this thing are making a huge mistake in how they are presenting their evidence. Already skeptical reporters that would just assume ignore a Bigfoot story as cover it should never be trifled with. If there is a body and it's something that represents a legitimate mystery, stop dancing around and show it to the press and public. When Megan Kelly asked Tom Biscardi where she would have to go to view the carcass, he feigned ignorance by saying, "I don't know where, they moved it…" It hardly seems credible that one of the chief organizers of the upcoming press event would not know where the carcass is currently being stored.

To make matters worse, the three websites that represent the most current information about this find have both been consistently down. Noted Bigfoot and crypto-zoology expert Loren Coleman has a website called LorenColeman.com and either owns or is associated with Cryptomundo.com. Both those websites are completely down as of this writing and have been that way for a few days. Biscardi's own website, SearchingForBigfoot.com merely displays a Bandwidth Exceeded notice and has also been unavailable for an extended period of time.

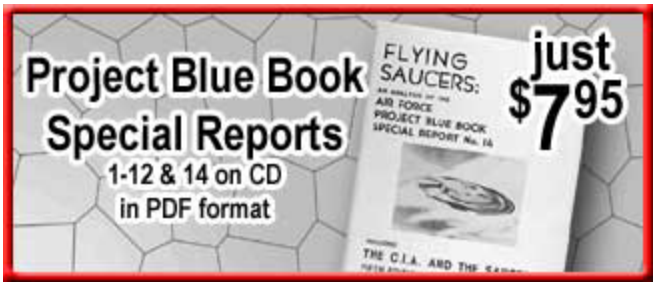
Loren Coleman has made some very positive statements about the Georgia carcass: "'It certainly looks like the real deal… The gorilla-like facial features, the robust lack of canines, and the grinding surfaces shown in the teeth suggest a bulky vegetarian with a mixture of higher primate characteristics." However, it's unclear whether he has actually seen the body in person or is merely drawing conclusions based on the photographic evidence. Not everyone in the Bigfoot research community has such a positive view of the find.

The California based Bigfoot Field Research Organization has shown a definite lack of enthusiasm for discovery of the carcass. They say that there have been over sixty documented sightings of Bigfoot in Georgia, but issued a warning calling the discovery of the carcass a "scam" designed to help advertise Whitton and Dyer's Bigfoot expeditions. However, I also believe that they have gone too far by also calling Whitton and Dyer "idiots" and "clowns". Name calling and snap judgments are not going to help advance the field of Bigfoot research and might do more damage than a hoax.

John Murphy is a partner in a movie costume company and recently emailed me regarding the carcass photos. He says, "I don't know much about this thing… I would have to see it in person to make a proper determination. It looks like a poor quality gorilla costume to me… I have Gorilla heads in stock that look exactly like the one in the photo. We rent those to projects that need for an actor to look like someone in a costume, not the real thing." Based on all the comments I have received about the photos, many people agree with John.

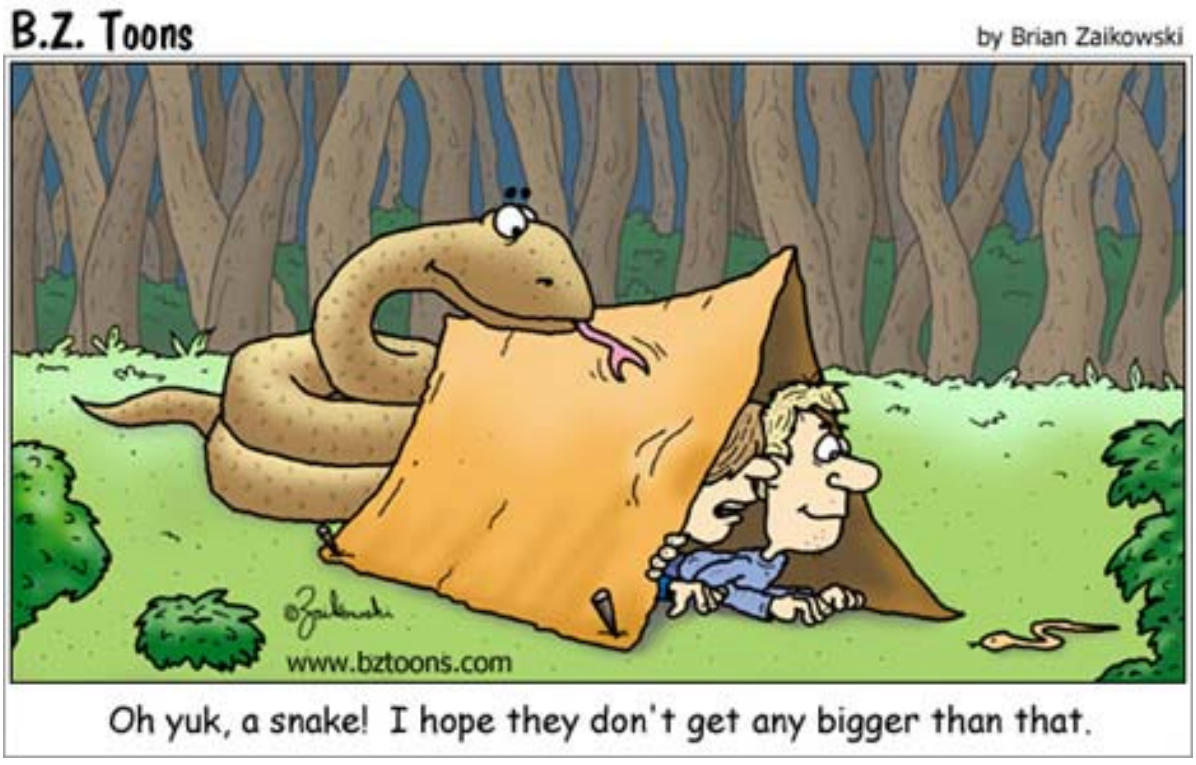
Sadly, what we seem to be in for is yet another convoluted and extended "what and see" type of presentation of paranormal evidence. Biscardi has told the press, "Extensive scientific studies will be done on the body by a team of scientists including a molecular biologist, an anthropologist, a paleontologist and other scientists over the next few months at an undisclosed location." He has yet to identify any of the people that will make up his "team of scientists" and indicated he was still assembling that team during the interview with Megan Kelly on Fox News.

If the claims about the carcass are true, I can certainly understand the need to be sure that a find of this magnitude is properly handled, scientifically and objectively examined. What I cannot understand is why the body hasn't been made available to other Bigfoot researchers, the press and the public. That leads me to believe that the owners of the carcass are receiving bad advice, Biscardi is holding back in hopes of a big payday from some pay per view event as he has tried to do in the past or that the entire thing is a hoax. Only time will tell.



History of the Loch Ness Monster (cont from page 29)

33. ^ Scientist Boasts New, Quality Footage of Loch Ness Monster
34. ^ Fabled monster caught on video
35. ^ stv News North Tonight - Loch Ness Monster sighting report and interview with Gordon Holmes - tx May 28, 2007
36. ^ "Nessie Footage Questions Focus On Filmmaker"
37. ^ New Video Likely Not Loch Ness Monster | LiveScience
38. ^ R. Binns (1983) The Loch Ness Mystery Solved ISBN 0 7291 0139 8, pages 36-39
39. ^ a b The Times October 5, 1934, page 12 Loch Ness "Monster" Film
40. ^ Tim Dinsdale (1973) The Story of the Loch Ness Monster Target Books ISBN 0426 11340 3
41. ^ 1969 Annual Report: Loch Ness Investigation
42. ^ Access : : Nature
43. ^ Scott, P. and Rines, R. "Naming the Loch Ness Monster" in Nature 258, (11 December 1975), pp 466-468
44. ^ Latest Nessie Expedition Warned Not to Break The Law
45. ^ Dinsdale, T. "Loch Ness Monster" (Routledge and Kegan paul 1976), p.171. Dinsdale, in the same paragraph, also says that Robert Rines, co-author of the Nature article, "soon came up with the antidote - 'Yes, both pix are monsters - R.'"
46. ^ "London, Dec. 18 (Reuters) - A Scottish member of Parliament has discovered an anagram for Nessiteras rhombopteryx... Nicholas Fairbairn, the MP, announced the anagram in a letter to The Times: 'Monster hoax by Sir Peter S.' ("Loch Ness Monster Shown a Hoax by Another Name." New York Times 19 December 1975. p. 78.)
47. ^ http://www.scotland-calling.com/nessie/nessie1.jpg
48. ^ a b Loch Ness Monster: Search for the Truth, 2001
49. ^ a b Dr. Robert H. Rines. Loch Ness Findings. Academy of Applied Science.
50. ^ Tim Dinsdale (1961) Loch Ness Monster pages 228-231
51. ^ R. P. Mackal (1976) The Monsters of Loch Ness, chapters X to XIV
52. ^ R. J. Binns (1983) The Loch Ness Mystery Solved, page 22
53. ^ "Were Dinosaurs Endotherms or Ectotherms?". BBC (2001). Retrieved on 2007-04-08.
54. ^ "Why the Loch Ness Monster is no plesiosaur" (2006). New Scientist 2576: 17. Retrieved on 2007-04-08.
55. ^ "A Geological View of Loch Ness and Area".
56. ^ Roy P. Mackal (1976) The Monsters of Loch Ness, page 138
57. ^ Daily Mirror 5 October 1934
58. ^ Costello, Peter (1975). In Search of Lake Monsters. Berkley Publishing Group. ISBN 978-0425029350.
59. ^ Yancey, Paul H. "MARINE PAGES: EPIPELAGIC ANIMALS". Retrieved on 2007-04-07.
60. ^ R. P. Mackal (1976) The Monsters of Loch Ness page 216, see also chapter 9 and appendix G
61. ^ Justice, Aaron (2007). "The Monster of Loch Ness". CryptoZoology.com. Retrieved on 2007-04-08.
62. ^ "Operation Cleansweep 2001". The Loch Ness Project (2001). Retrieved on 2007-04-08.
63. ^ Tim Dinsdale (1961) Loch Ness Monster page 229
64. ^ The Times December 9 1933, page 14
65. ^ R. P. Mackal (1976) The Monsters of Loch Ness, pages 138-9, 211-213
66. ^ Holiday, F.T. The Great Orm of Loch Ness (Faber and Faber 1968)
67. ^ R. P. Mackal (1976) The Monsters of Loch Ness pages 141-142, chapter XIV
68. ^ Sjögren, Bengt (1980). Berömda vidunder (in Swedish). Settern. ISBN 91-7586-023-6.
69. ^ Aberdeen Weekly Journal, Wednesday, June 11, 1879
70. ^ Tim Dinsdale (1975) Project Water Horse. The true story of the monster quest at Loch Ness (Routledge & Kegan Paul) ISBN 0710080301
71. ^ R. Binns (1983) The Loch Ness Mystery Solved plates 15(a)-(f)
72. ^ R. Binns (1983) The Loch Ness Mystery Solved plates 16-18
73. ^ G. R. Williamson Sci. Rep. Whales Res. Inst., No. 39,1988
74. ^ Video by Dick Raynor
75. ^ Dick Raynor website
76. ^ A Fresh Look At Nessie, New Scientist, v. 83, pp. 358-359
77. ^ National Geographic News
78. ^ Daily Mirror 17 Aug 1933 page 12
79. ^ Burton, Maurice (1982). "The Loch Ness Saga". New Scientist 06-24: 872.
80. ^ Burton, Maurice (1982). "The Loch Ness Saga". New Scientist 07-01: 41–42.
81. ^ Burton, Maurice (1982). "The Loch Ness Saga". New Scientist 07-08: 112–113.
82. ^ "Mystery Animals of Ireland". Retrieved on 2007-04-08.
83. ^ Movement of Water in Lakes: Long standing waves (Seiches)
84. ^ Standing Wave Formation
85. ^ Boat Wakes Mistaken For Monsters
86. ^ W. H. Lehn (1979) Science vol 205. No. 4402 pages 183 -185 "Atmospheric Refraction and Lake Monsters"
87. ^ W. H. Lehn & I. Schroeder, Nature (London) 289, 362-366 (1981)"The Norse merman as an optical phenomenon"
88. ^ Seismotectonic Origins Of The Monster Of Loch Ness
89. ^ Birth of a legend: Famous Photo Falsified?
90. ^ Loch Ness monster: The Ultimate Experiment
91. ^ Loch Ness Monster's tooth found?



Indiana UFO Invasion

UFOs being chased by military jets has become a common theme in the USA other the past year. In all of these cases the jets almost immediately dropped flairs to cover up what was, obviously, a far more interesting mission. If any comments were forthcoming from the military, they merely stated that any military aircraft seen in the area were on training missions.

When most people think of UFOs being chased by jets, they think of the Stephenville and Erath County, Texas, events that took place in January of 2008. In that case, recently released FAA radar reports show that unidentified objects were tracked along with military jets and that at least one may have violated presidential airspace over the Bush Ranch in Crawford, Texas. However, incidents like that one have taken place on numerous occasions in Indiana as well.

The Indiana incidents began on April 15, 2008, when a number of people living in the northern Indiana towns of Kokomo and Logansport reported seeing strange lights in their skies and the presence of military jets over the next two nights. They also heard what sounded like a huge explosion, followed by the appearance of a giant fireball and debris falling from the sky.

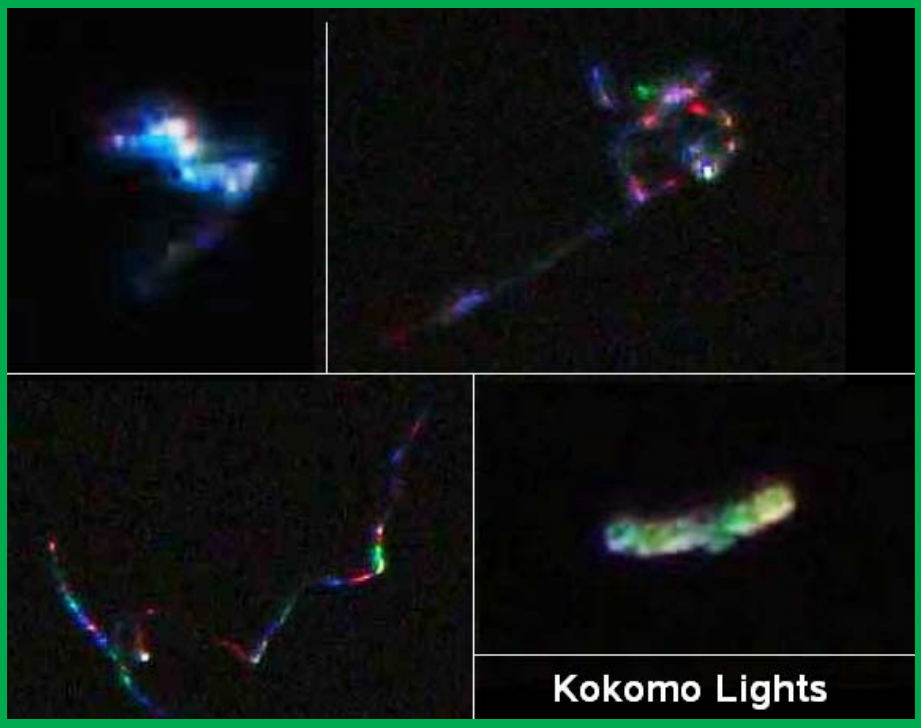
Some said the debris looked like ‘spider webs’ and resembled a phenomenon known as Angel Hair, a sometimes radioactive substance which has appeared after UFO sightings and landings throughout the years. Most of the material melted or vanished later in the day. The sightings and jet chases were reported over two nights. A military spokesperson later told concerned citizens that the jets were on training exercises and attributed the other events to the dropping of flares.

New sightings of UFOs being chased by military jets occurred recently near Lake Shafer and Peru, Indiana. The sightings began on July 23, 2008 in the Indiana beach area near Lake Shafer. One witness named Joe provided this report to me:

“We had seen some strange lights while we were leaving Indiana Beach on Lake Shaffer. It was on Wednesday, July 23,2008, at about 10:15. I taped some of the objects, but the only things you can see is when they would “flare up” and get really bright. When we first seen them, their was 3 of them and they were arranged in a triangle shape. Later 2 others joined them and they lined up in a straight line. Unfortunately, I never got video of them grouped together or of them darting around and zooming from the east to the west of us in a about 2 seconds. I did get some video of one of the objects directly above us and one to the east of

us as they flared up."

"None of these objects made any sounds. The only sound we heard was when a military jet flew over us and headed towards the objects. The objects disappeared and never returned after a short chase by the military jet. As we were driving home my sons mom called him to see if we had seen the strange lights in the sky. She lives in Rochester, Indiana which is about 40 miles from where we were at. She said she was on the lake on her boat and noticed the lights darting around and flaring up."



The fact that the lights formed into triangles is significant. A number of UFO sightings have recently occurred in the USA, the UK and Canada involving strange lights that have formed into triangles. Some of these cases also involve military intervention by jets and helicopters. The Indiana sightings continued on July 24, 2008, as reported by a witness named Chris:

"It happened Thursday July 24th 2008... I live in Peru Indiana , my wife and a few people were sitting outside last night around 10:30 pm. My wife came in saying they saw a UFO. They said it looked like a ball of fire. Shortly after, I would say 10 or 15 minutes later, about 10 jets started flying around where it was seen. The jets started dropping flares. But the people that saw the " ball of fire" said it didn't look the same as what they saw about 10 minutes earlier. The witnesses were all females and kids and they were clearly shaken by what they saw. The jets continued to fly around the area for hours afterwards."

While all this was going on, another report came in from a person named Diane. She was driving between Lafayette and Monticello, Indiana on July 24, 2008 and sent me this report:

"I heard a lot of noise that sounded like jet engines… They were really low. I stopped at a gas station to take a look and seen jets everywhere. It was between nine and ten at night and they were chasing this big bright light that glowed red and yellow. I guess all this was happening miles away from me in the sky but it looked closer. I was at a gas station and everyone was looking at all this. When I went inside the cashier said that he thought it was a UFO and everyone in there said the same thing… I stopped somewhere between Brookston and Monticello."

In addition to the previous report which mentioned UFOs seen in the Rochester area, this one came in from Grant:

"I heard you on Coast to Coast and wanted to report a bright light I seen near Main Street and 31 on the 24th (7/24/08) in Rochester… The light looked like a spotlight they use for store openings and I saw jets around it at 11pm. My kid was with me and he got scared… I called my wife and asked if she seen it. We live near Fulton Avenue across town and she said the light was high in the sky above our house… She didn't see the jets but heard them."

Thank you to all those that provided reports about these significant events. If you saw something similar, please visit my website and file a report. I made several calls and sent emails to regional military commands to request an explanation or statement on these events, but have received none as of this writing. The Midwest has a long history of UFO sightings and this year seems to be a busy one.

By Bill Knell

Somewhere in the back of your mind
you've always known
it was true

UFO

THE GREATEST STORY EVER DENIED

JEMWORKS, LLC
PRESENTS
A FILM BY JOSE ESCAMILLA

STARRING TREVOR JAMES CONSTABLE - MARTYN STUBBS - JOSE ESCAMILLA
SANTIAGO YTTURIA - DR. ROGER LEIR
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS RICHARD CLAVERIA - JOSE ESCAMILLA
PRODUCERS JOSE ESCAMILLA - TODD GROSSMAN - DEITER NIELSON - BARRY CONRAD - MARY VARGAS
CINEMATOGRAPHY DEITER NIELSON - BARRY CONRAD - MARY VARGAS - JOSE ESCAMILLA
ORIGINAL MUSIC SCORES ROBERTO FERRARI - JOSE ESCAMILLA - SANTIAGO YTTURIA - RAY CANFILL
CREATED AND WRITTEN BY JOSE ESCAMILLA - DIRECTED AND EDITED BY JOSE ESCAMILLA